PRICE ONE PENNY.

The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 18,025. | Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by post as a Newspaper. | SYDNEY, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1895. | PRICE 1d.

Births.

GREEN.—December 23, 1895, at Commercial Bank, Gunnedah, the wife of H. B. Green, of a daughter.

PARISH.—December 24, at Tremere, Concord, the wife of Walter G. Parish, of a son.

SHIRLEY.—December 23, at her residence, Tatlow, Neutral Bay, the wife of George Shirley, of a son.

WHEATLEY.—December 23, at her residence, Oakdene, Springwood, the wife of Walter Wheatley, of a daughter. Both doing well.

Marriages.

MALET DE CARTERET—ARMSTRONG.—On Saturday, December 21st, at St. Philip's, Auburn, Amy Anne Frances, only daughter of Commander R. R. Armstrong, R.N., to Reginald, eldest son of Colonel Malet de Carteret, of St. Owens Manor, Jersey.

Deaths.

CHILD.—December 21, at Armidale, Anne Isabella, the infant daughter of Arthur W. and E. Mona Child.

COLVIN.—December 22, at her parents' residence, Edgerton, Ross-street, Parramatta, Caroline Catherine (Carrie) fourth dearly-beloved daughter of Thomas Sterling and Catherine J. Colvin. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be name of the Lord.

GLASSON.—December 20, at Athol, Blayney, Richard Glasson, aged 59 years.

HAGUE-SMITH.—December 23, at Thornleigh, Edith, dearly loved daughter of S. Hague-Smith.

JEFFERY.—December 15, at her residence, 90 Newtown-road, city, Emily Jeffery, aged 70 years and 11 months. For ever with the Lord.

MATHER.—December 23, 1895, at his residence, Ivylea, John-street, Marrickville, Joseph Mather, aged 77 years.

ROY.—December 10, at Perth, Western Australia, George Roy, late of St. Peters, Sydney, aged 43 years.

In Memoriam.

GUILFOYLE.—In loving memory of William Guilfoyle, who departed this life on 24th December, 1894. R.I.P. Inserted by his sister and brother-in-law, J. and M. B. Donnellan.

SEMPLE.—In loving remembrance of Andrew Semple, who died 25th December, 1894. Inserted by B. Morgan.

SHERLOCK.—In loving remembrance of William Sherlock, who departed this life on his 60th birthday, Xmas Day, 1894. Inserted by his only son, E. W. Sherlock. R.I.P.

F. LASSETTER AND CO., Ltd.,
ESTBD. 1880.
SUPPLY
EVERYTHING
at
WHOLESALE RATES.
GOOD QUALITY OF EVERY ARTICLE GUARANTEED.
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WE ALLOW
NO ONE TO UNDERSELL US.
THE LARGEST AND BEST BOUGHT STOCK IN SYDNEY.
F. LASSETTER and CO.,
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CARNATIONS, CARNATIONS, CARNATIONS.—Choice Cut Carnations, 6d per glass. PEARCE BROS., 107 King-street, and 31 Sydney Arcade. Telephone, 1259.

XMAS PRESENTS at SEARL'S.—Xmas Decorations, New Spanish Baskets, Fern Baskets, choice Drawing-room Plants, Bouquets, &c. New Flower Seeds to hand. 19 King-street. Tel. 1117.

NOTE OUR ADDRESS. SHEPHERD and CO., No. 6 THE STRAND, and DARLING NURSERY, LACHLAN-STREET, off Bourke-street, Redfern.

MISS Bermingham (late Pearce Bros.), 129 Ox.-st., wed. and funeral orders, table decorations. Tel., 1834.

BEST FISHING TACKLE. EASTWAY BROTHERS, 411 George-street.

A NICE XMAS PRESENT. A BIRD and CAGE. 1000 to pick from, all sorts and colours. F. C. JANSON, Bird Dealer, Wireworker, 196a Geo.-st. N.

Shipping.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

The Royal Mail Steamships of the above Company will be despatched from Circular Quay (Macquarie Point) at 1 p.m., and from Melbourne and Adelaide on the following dates at NOON:—

FOR LONDON,
Touching at the usual intermediate ports en route.

Steamer.	Tons.	Commander.	Leave Sydney.	Leave Melbourne.	Leave Adelaide.
			1896.	1896.	1896.
*Parram'tta	4874	P. Harris	Jan. 6	Jan. 11	Jan. 15
Australia	7000	I. Reeves	Jan. 20	Jan. 25	Jan. 29
Massilia	5016	R. Harvey	Feb. 3	Feb. 8	Feb. 12
*Arcadia	6362	A. C. Loggin	Feb. 17	Feb. 22	Feb. 26

And thenceforward every alternate week.
* TAKING PASSENGERS FOR VENICE.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY TO LONDON:—
First Saloon ... £60 to £70
Second Saloon ... £35, £37, £40
Return Tickets ... £85 to £105

Passage-money can be paid here for passages from England.
For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices, corner Pitt and Bridge streets.
I. M. SHIELDS, Acting Agent.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

SYDNEY TO LONDON, via PARIS.
Steamers of 6500 tons, under postal contract with the French Government, calling at MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, ALBANY, MAHE, ADEN, SUEZ, and PORT SAID, will be despatched monthly as follows:—

Steamer.	Command'r.	Sydney noon	Melbourne 1 p.m.	Adelaide 1 p.m.
AUSTRALIEN	Flandin	Dec. 28	Dec. 31	Jan. 2
V. de la CIOTAT	Fiaschi	Jan. 27	Jan. 31	Feb. 2
POLYNESIEN	Boulard	Feb. 27	March 2	Mar. 4
ARM'D BEHIC	Poydenot	Mar. 27	March 31	April 2

Passengers booked to BOMBAY, REUNION, MAURITIUS, and EAST COAST OF AFRICA.
PASSAGE MONEY, £20 to £70, including table wines.
RETURN TICKETS, available for 9 or 12 months, at REDUCED RATES.—ENGLISH SPOKEN ON BOARD.
Passage Money can be paid here for passages from Europe. Liberal concessions to families.
Upon arrival at Marseilles, English interpreters meet the passengers for London and give them every assistance in landing and passing their luggage through the Customs, &c., and also accompany them to Paris and Calais.
N.B.—Passengers' luggage conveyed free of cost from Marseilles to London by steamer.
For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices, Queen's Corner, Pitt-street.
E. BLANC, Principal Agent.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

Passengers are carried by the IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL STEAMERS according to the requirements of the English Passengers Acts of 1855 and 1863 to:—SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP, BREMEN, via COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, and GENOA.
Steamers from GENOA, NAPLES, or SOUTHAMPTON DIRECT to NEW YORK.
Steamers will be despatched as follows (if practicable):—

Steamer.	Tns	Leave Sydney 4 p.m.	Leave Melbourne.	Leave Ad'l'ide S'maph.
Prinz-Regent Luitpold	6700	Dec. 30	Jan. 4	Jan. 8
			1896.	
Oldenburg	5318	Jan. 27	Feb. 1	Feb. 5
[illegible]	5319	Feb. 24	Feb. 29	Mar. 4
Darmstadt	5316	Mar. 25	April 1	April 4
Bayern	5348	April 22	April 29	May 2
Prinz-Regent Luitpold	6700	May 20	May 27	May 30

Passage Money from £14 to £67 10s.
RETURN TICKETS AT REDUCED RATES.
Special facilities are afforded for bringing out relatives and friends from Europe by prepayment of passage-money.
FIRST-CLASS RETURN TICKETS BETWEEN SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, and ADELAIDE are interchangeable for Return by Rail or Sea.
J. MERGELL, General Agent, Exchange Corner, 63 Pitt-street.

STEAM TO LONDON.

The Fine Steamship URMSTON GRANGE, 5400 tons, C. S. Crichton master, will be despatched about 30th DECEMBER.
Splendid Accommodation for SALOON and SECOND-CLASS PASSENGERS.
For rate of freight or passage apply to GIBBS, BRIGHT, and CO., 37 Pitt-street.
Wool received by FLOOD and CO., Limited.

ORIENT LINE OF ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.

The following Royal Mail Steamships belonging to the ORIENT and PACIFIC COMPANIES will leave SYDNEY at 1 p.m. as under for LONDON (Tilbury), via Melbourne, Adelaide, Albany, Colombo (transhipping for all Indian ports), Suez Canal, Naples, and Gibraltar:—

*OROYA	6077 tons	E. E. Lavington	Dec. 30
ORIENT	5365 "	H. F. Inskip	Jan. 13
ORMUZ	6031 "	F. M. Tuke	Jan. 27
OROTAVA	5552 "	J. Linklater	Feb. 10

And Fortnightly thereafter.
* This steamer sails at 4 p.m.
PASSAGE MONEY—£70 to £15 15s.
Facilities are offered for bringing out friends and relatives from London by the prepayment of passage-money.
MANAGERS: F. GREEN and CO. and ANDERSON, ANDERSON, and CO., Fenchurch-avenue, London, E.C.
Full particulars on application to JOHN BELL, 45 Pitt-street. Managing Director in Australia.

COOK'S TOURS (all routes) to Europe. Call or send for Special programme. 4 Hunter-st.

COOK'S EXCURSIONS to New Zealand and Tasmania. Tickets at lowest rates. Office, 4 Hunter-st.

TO GREAT BRITAIN AND EUROPE.
A. and A. ROUTE.
ROYAL MAIL EXPRESS SERVICE.
Avoiding alike the heat of the Red Sea and the cold of Cape Horn.
Under contract with the Governments of New South Wales, New Zealand, and United States, the steamers of this line leave Sydney and Auckland for Apia (Samoa), Honolulu, and San Francisco every four weeks, as under:—

Steamer.	Commander	Sydney, 4 p.m.	Auckland, 2 p.m.	Arrive 'Frisco.
MONOWAI	Carey	Jan. 20	Jan. 25	Feb. 13
ALAMEDA	Van Oterendorp	Feb. 17	Feb. 22	Mar. 12

Passengers booked to all the principal parts of EUROPE, UNITED STATES, and CANADA AT LOWEST FARES, including stop-over privileges at any point, choice of railway routes and Atlantic steamers, the fastest, finest, and largest afloat.
ROUND THE WORLD TICKETS BY ANY ROUTE.
The waters of the Pacific are proverbially smooth, the weather mild and pleasant, and the ports of call frequent and interesting. The overland journey is surpassingly grand, full of novelty and variety of scenery, and the trains veritable PALACES ON WHEELS, with all the comforts of a first-class hotel. Add to this visits to the Greatest Cities of the American Continent—Chicago, New York, &c.—and intercourse with the most enterprising and inventive people of the age. All this and more is only part of the itinerary included in ordinary through tickets, and can be accomplished without extra charge.
Full particulars, Illustrated Guides, Maps, &c., gratis, on application to UNION STEAM SHIP CO. of N.Z., Ltd., 15 Bridge-street; or Passenger Office, Moore-street, near G.P.O.

UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, Limited, will despatch Steamers from their Wharves, Margaret and Sussex streets, as follows, weather and other circumstances permitting:—

NEW ZEALAND.
For AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, and BLUFF, thence to Hobart and Melbourne (transhipping to outports)—
S.S. ROTOMAHANA, THURSDAY, January 2, at 3 p.m.
For AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, and DUNEDIN (transhipping to outports)—
S.S. WAIHORA, WEDNESDAY, January 15.
S.S. WAKATIPU, WEDNESDAY, January 29.
For WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, and BLUFF, thence to Hobart and Melbourne (transhipping to outports)—
S.S. TALUNE, FRIDAY, December 27, at 5 p.m.
S.S. WAKATIPU, SATURDAY, January 4. (Does not proceed further South than Dunedin).
S.S. HAUROTO, FRIDAY, January 10.
S.S. MANAPOURI, FRIDAY, January 17.
S.S. MARAROA, SATURDAY, January 25.

TASMANIA.
For HOBART—
S.S. OONAH, SATURDAY, December 28. No cargo received after noon. (See special advertisement.)
Passengers and Cargo booked through to STRAHAN.
For LAUNCESTON and N.W. COAST PORTS (Devonport and Burnie), via EDEN—
S.S. PUKAKI, FRIDAY, December 27, at noon.
No cargo received within one hour before sailing.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.
For NUKUALOFA, HAAPAI, VAVAU (Tonga), APIA (Samoa), and SUVA (Fiji), via AUCKLAND—
S.S. OVALAU, about TUESDAY, December 31.

From MELBOURNE.
NEW ZEALAND PORTS and HOBART—
S.S. MANAPOURI, TUESDAY, December 31.
LAUNCESTON, EVERY FIVE DAYS.
DEVONPORT, BURNIE, and STANLEY, every THURSDAY.
STRAHAN (Zeehan Silver Fields), every TUESDAY.

WEST COAST SOUNDS EXCURSIONS.
The magnificent S.S. TARAWERA will make two trips to the world-famed West Coast Sounds of New Zealand during the present summer season, leaving Dunedin on or about 22nd January, and on or about 31st January for the second trip.
For full particulars apply at Company's Offices, 15 Bridge-street, or Branch Passenger Office, Moore-street, near G.P.O.

TASMANIA.
The Favourite Steamers OONAH and PUKAKI will be despatched at short intervals as under:—
S.S. OONAH, 1757 tons.
TO HOBART Dec. 28, Jan. 4, 11, and 18. Returning from HOBART Jan. 1, 7, and 14.
S.S. PUKAKI, 1500 tons,
TO LAUNCESTON and N.W. COAST PORTS (DEVONPORT, and BURNIE), via EDEN — FRIDAY, December 27, at noon.
For further particulars apply to UNION S. S. CO., 15 Bridge-street. Branch Office, Moore-street.

ABERDEEN WHITE STAR LINE.
STEAM TO CAPETOWN AND LONDON.
The following magnificent steamers will leave SYDNEY for CAPETOWN, TENERIFFE, and LONDON as follows:—

Name of Steamer.	Commander.	Tons Regr.	Leaves Sydney, at 3 p.m.
ABERDEEN	A. T. Wills	3700	Jan. 31
AUSTRALASIAN	T. F. Spalding	3700	Feb. 25
DAMASCUS	A. H. G. Douglas, R.N.R.	3700	Mar. 27
NINEVEH	N. Allan	3900	Apr. 30

All the above have splendid accommodation, and will carry a surgeon and stewardess.
Passengers by this route to London will avoid the heat of the Red Sea.
For freight and passage money apply to DALGETY and COMPANY, Limited, Agents, 1 Bent-street.

DEUTSCH-AUSTRALISCHE DAMPFSCHIFFS-GESELLSCHAFT (German-Australian S.S. Company), for ANTWERP, HAMBURG, and other Continental Ports, via Suez Canal.
The full-powered new Steamers of the Company will be despatched on or about the following dates:—

Steamer.	Capacity.	Commander.	Departs
*Solingen	4300 "	Treisen	Jan. 4
Essen	4800 "	Bruhn	Jan. 25
Sommerfeld	4300 "	Sass	Feb. 20
Chemnitz	4300 tons	Vierk	

* Has accommodation for limited number of saloon passengers.
For freight and all particulars apply to H. W. HENDERSON, General Agent for Australasia. 81 Pitt-street.

GULF LINE.
STEAM to HAMBURG direct and LONDON.
Fine fast Steamship GULF OF MEXICO, 3082 tons, Captain W. WARDEN, will have prompt despatch.
For rates of freight apply to A. M'ARTHUR and CO., 15 Macquarie-place.
Cargo received at Admiralty Wharf, Woolloomooloo Bay.

FOR DUNKIRK, HAMBURG, and ANTWERP.
The Fine No. Steamship WRAGGOE, 2845 tons, W. ROWE Commander.
This fine Steamer will leave here on the 31st instant for the above ports. Early application for space is necessary, as the bulk of her cargo is already engaged.
For rates of freight apply to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, Bridge-street; or DANGAR, GEDYE, and CO., Margaret-street — Joint Agents.
Wool received at Talbot and Co.'s stores.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS FOR LONDON.
The Fine New Steamship BULUWAYO, 4412 tons, J. CLUNIE, Commander, has excellent Accommodation for Saloon Passengers on Upper and Bridge Decks amidships, with electric light and all latest improvements for Comfort of Passengers; also carries a Doctor.
Will be despatched about 15th JANUARY, via Suez Canal, at REDUCED RATES.
For full particulars apply to DANGAR, GEDYE, and CO., Managing Agents, Margaret-street.

RICHMOND RIVER.—S.S. OAKLAND, FRIDAY, at 8 p.m., from Yeager's Wharf, Pyrmont.

LAUNCH PACIFIC available for every Afternoon and Holidays. H. Prescott and Co., 101 Sussex-st.

AFTERNOON EXCURSIONS.—S.S. NAMOI, 1414 tons, to HAWKESBURY RIVER. SATURDAY, from Market-street Wharf, at 2 o'clock. Return Fare, 2s.

CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN R.M. LINE TO FIJI, HONOLULU, VANCOUVER, CANADA, UNITED STATES, and EUROPE, in connection with the famous CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

R.M.S.	Tons.	Commander.	Leave Grafton Wharf, 1 p.m.
MIOWERA	3500	Jas. Stott	January 18
WARRIMOO	3500	Chas. E. Bird	February 18

Thenceforward MONTHLY.
First and Second Class Accommodation unequalled.
Excellent Cuisine. Specially low through second-class rates to Europe. Cool voyage through the Tropics, stopping at Suva (Fiji Group) and Honolulu, the Paradise of the Pacific.
Passengers for Europe will find the voyage via Canada very enjoyable compared to the discomforting heat of the Red Sea and Suez Canal. The scenery over the Canadian Pacific Railway is unequalled in grandeur. Stop-over privileges allowed at the various points of interest, such as Banff (Canadian National Park), Niagara Falls, &c.
ROUND-THE-WORLD TOURS.—Exceptional privileges offered.
Railway Maps, Guide Books, rates of passage, and all other information apply to HUDDART, PARKER, and CO., Ltd., Exchange Corner, 63 Pitt-street.

HUDDART, PARKER, AND COMPANY'S LINE.
Weather and other circumstances permitting.
MELBOURNE:
BURRUMBEET, FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER, at 5 p.m.
Electric Light installed throughout.
Hot and Cold Sea-water Baths. Promenade Deck 300ft. long.
Saloon and Fore Cabin Stewardesses Carried.
RETURN TICKET, AVAILABLE FOR SIX MONTHS, TWO POUNDS TEN SHILLINGS.
SYDNEY TO HOBART DIRECT, by the STEAMSHIP TAMBO, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, at 4 p.m. OR ROUND TRIP SYDNEY TO SYDNEY, VIA MELBOURNE, LAUNCESTON, and HOBART, or VICE VERSA.
NEWCASTLE.
The Steamers of the Company run at frequent intervals.
FARES AND FREIGHTS AT LOWEST CURRENT RATES.

NEW ZEALAND.
FOR AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, and DUNEDIN, transhipping to other Ports.

Ship.	Date.
ANGLIAN	WEDNESDAY, January 8, at 4 p.m.
TASMANIA	WEDNESDAY, January 22, at 4 p.m.

For full particulars apply HUDDART, PARKER, and CO., Limited. Offices, Exchange Corner, 63 Pitt-street. Wharf, Foot Margaret-street.

THE ADELAIDE S.S. CO., Ltd.
GOLDFIELDS.
COOLGARDIE and MURCHISON.
REGULAR STEAMERS FOR ALL WEST AUSTRALIAN PORTS.
The favourite Passenger Steamer S.S. ADELAIDE will make a special trip to West Australian Ports, leaving Sydney on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31st, TO ALBANY AND FREMANTLE, connecting with GERALDTON AND ALL NORTH-WESTERN PORTS.
SPECIALLY REDUCED RATES.
Passengers for Coolgardie booked through to Northam and Southern Cross at LOWEST POSSIBLE RATES.
For all particulars apply to G. S. YUILL and CO., Agents, 6 Bridge-street.

THE ADELAIDE STEAMSHIP COMPANY, Limited.
EXPRESS PASSENGER SERVICE. From Druitt-street Wharf.
For MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, PORT PIRIE, and GULF PORTS — S.S. ADELAIDE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, at 4 p.m.
For ALBANY and FREMANTLE — S.S. ADELAIDE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, at 4 p.m.
For BRISBANE, MACKAY, TOWNSVILLE, and Ports North to CAIRNS — S.S. FRANKLIN, SATURDAY, December 28, at noon.
SPECIALLY REDUCED PASSENGER RATES.
WEST AUSTRALIAN GOLDFIELDS. SEE SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS ABOVE.
G. S. YUILL and CO., Agents, 6 Bridge-street.

COOLGARDIE.
A.U.S.N. CO., Ltd.
SPECIAL DIRECT TRIP FROM SYDNEY, without transhipment.
The Splendid Express Passenger Steamship BARCOO, The Greyhound on the Australian Coast, will be despatched SATURDAY, 2 p.m., the 28th DECEMBER, for MELBOURNE, ALBANY, and FREMANTLE.
This Steamship's Passenger Accommodation is unrivalled.
Particulars on application to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Ltd., Agents, 10 Bridge-street.

A. U. S. N. CO., Ltd.
ROYAL MAIL COASTAL SERVICE.
From their Wharves, Lime-street.

FOR MELBOURNE ADELAIDE	Barcoo, Saturday, 2 p.m., Dec. 28; Waroonga, Tuesday, Dec. 31; Waroonga, Tuesday, Dec. 31
W. AUSTRALIAN PORTS	Barcoo, Saturday, 2 p.m., Dec. 28; Waroonga, Tuesday, Dec. 31 (See Special Advt. below).
ESPERANCE BAY	Yaralla, Thursday, January 2
BRISBANE	Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27; Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31
MARYBOROUGH	Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27
BUNDABERG GLADSTONE	Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27
ROCKHAMPTON	Eurimbla, Friday, 5 p.m., Dec. 27; Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31
MACKAY, BOW'N, TOWNSVILLE, via all ports, to COOKTOWN	Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31; Maranoa, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Jan. 7
THURSDAY I'L'D NORMANTON BURKETOWN	Arawatta, Tuesday, 5 p.m., Dec. 31
NOUMEA; SUVA, LEVUKA (FIJI); NUKUALOFA, HAAPAI, VAVAU (TONGA)	Victoria, Monday, 11 p.m., Dec. 30
NEW HEBRIDES	Katoomba, Thursday, Jan. 9.

The Accommodation of this Company's First-class Steamers is unequalled, and inspection is cordially invited.
LOWEST FARES AND FREIGHTS.
BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, Agents, 10 Bridge-street.

COOLGARDIE.
WEST AUSTRALIAN GOLDFIELDS.
A.U.S.N. CO., Ltd., Intend Despatching DIRECT FROM SYDNEY the following Favourite Ocean-going Passenger Steamships for FREMANTLE and GERALDTON, without transhipment, as under:—
BARCOO .. Sat'day, 2 p.m., 28th Dec.
WAROONGA .. Tuesday, 31st Dec.
CINTRA .. Wed., 8th Jan., 1896
via MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, and ALBANY.
LOWEST CURRENT FARES.
Particulars on application to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Agents, 10 Bridge-street.

BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, BRIDGE-STREET, SYDNEY.
INTENDING TRAVELLERS should call for sheet of WORLD'S TOURS and LOCAL EXCURSIONS.
Passengers Booked by Best Lines at Lowest Rates.
BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited.

LAUNCH, 300 to 500 passengers, wanted Buy for Melbourne; others wanted. Davis, 108 Pitt-st., op. G.P.O.

THE HOWARD SMITH LINE.
TO ALL WEST and SOUTH AUSTRALIAN, VICTORIAN, and QUEENSLAND PORTS.

FOR MELBOURNE	Peregrine, Saturday, Dec. 28, 1 p.m.; Tyrian, Saturday, January 4, 12 noon.
ADELAIDE, PORT AUGUSTA, PORT PIRIE	Tyrian, Saturday, January 4, 12 noon.
ALBANY, FREMANTLE, GERALDTON	S.s. Gabo, leaves Melbourne Saturday, 28th instant.
BRISBANE, MARYBOROUGH, BUNDABERG, ROCKHAMPTON	Leura, Saturday, Dec. 28, 2 p.m.; Barrabool, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 5 p.m.
MACKAY, TOWNSVILLE	Leura, Saturday, Dec. 28, 2 p.m.; Peregrine, Saturday, Jan. 4, 2 p.m.

Cargo for all ports received daily.
LOWEST CURRENT FARES TO ALL PORTS. RETURN TICKETS AVAILABLE for SIX MONTHS.
WM. HOWARD SMITH and SONS, Ltd. Offices—67 York-street, between King and Barrack streets. Wharves—Foot of King-street.

BRISBANE AND QUEENSLAND PORTS.
S.S. LEURA will leave wharf, foot of King-street, SATURDAY, 28th instant, 2 p.m. Lowest Current Fares and Freights.
MELBOURNE.
S.S. PEREGRINE. This favourite passenger steamer will leave Wharf, foot of King-street, SATURDAY, 28th instant, 1 p.m. Lowest Current Fares and Freights.
WM. HOWARD SMITH and SONS, Ltd. Offices—67 York-street. Wharves, foot King-street.

STEAM TO AND FROM NEWCASTLE during XMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1895-6.

Day.	Date.	From Sydney.	From Newcastle.
Wednesday	Dec. 25	Newcastle "	Namoi 11.30 p.m.
Thursday	" 26	Namoi "	Newcastle "
Friday	" 27	Newcastle "	Namoi "
Saturday	" 28	Namoi 11.30 p.m.	Newcastle "
Sunday	" 29	...	...
Monday	" 30	Newcastle 11 p.m.	Namoi "
Tuesday	" 31	Namoi "	Newcastle "
Wednesday	Jan. 1	Newcastle "	Namoi "
Thursday	" 2	Namoi "	Newcastle "

FARES:—Saloon, single 7s, return (available 2 months, 10s 6d, deck cabin berths 2s extra each way; Steerage, 4s each way.
. Perishables and live stock only received and delivered on Christmas and Boxing Day.
F. J. THOMAS, Manager.
The Newcastle and Hunter River S.S. Co., Ltd. Offices: 147 Sussex-st. Wharf: Foot of Market-st.

THE NORTH COAST S. N. COMPANY, Ltd., Steamers leave CLARENCE WHARF, 3 Sussex-st., for CLARENCE RIVER—Kallatina, Saturday, 9 p.m. RICHMOND RIVER—Tomki, Friday, 8 p.m. MACLEAY RIVER—Burrawong, Friday, at 11 p.m. From MARKET WHARF, foot of Market-street, for MANNING RIVER—Electra, Friday, 2 p.m. PORT MACQUARIE, BELLINGER—Rosedale, Friday, 4 p.m.
NOTICE.—EXCURSION TICKETS are issued by Steamers leaving between 13th and 31st December (inclusive), available for return within one month from the date of issue. RICHARD COOKE, Secretary.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS.
ILLAWARRA S. N. COMPANY. WEATHER PERMITTING.
Wollongong, Kiama, Shoalhaven, Tues., Fri. Cargo only, Clyde River, Nelligen, Bateman's Bay, Friday, 10 a.m. Ulladulla, Tuesday, noon; Friday, 10 a.m. Merimbula, Eden, Bermagui, Monday, Tuesday, noon. Tathra, Pambula, Monday, Tuesday, noon.

FOR LONDON.
FOR THE MAY WOOL SALES.
The Clipper Ship INVERNEILL will have Prompt Despatch.
For rates of freight apply to GIBBS, BRIGHT, and CO., 37 Pitt-street.
WOOL RECEIVED by FLOOD and CO., Ltd.

REGULAR LINE OF SAILING VESSELS TO LONDON.
The splendid Four-masted Iron Ship PETER IREDALE, Now Fast Loading.
This exceptionally fine vessel, having large engagements, will be despatched about the 25th instant.
J. S. MAILLER and CO., Wool Exchange.
Wool received at Smith's Wharf, Miller's Point.

FOR LONDON DIRECT.
The Iron Clipper Barque EDINBURGH, 1406 tons, A. S. CUTLER Commander, now loading at Dalgety's Wharf, will have quick despatch.
For terms of freight apply to DALGETY and CO., Limited, 1 Bent-street.

F. C. JANSON, Bird and Animal Dealer, Wholesale and Retail, 196a George-st. North.

MANLY. MANLY. MANLY.
THE VILLAGE BY THE SEA.
SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
Passengers by the CO-OPERATIVE S. FERRY CO. only are admitted FREE OF CHARGE to the FAIRY BOWER PICNIC GROUNDS.
Hot Water on the Ground, Swings, See-saws, &c., &c.
3d RETURN FARE 3d.
Steamers will run every few minutes throughout the day. No Waiting, No Overcrowding by the CO-OPERATIVE CO.
Ten (10) Steamers engaged for BOXING DAY, including the favourites
CYGNET,
ADMIRAL,
CONQUEROR,
GOSFORD,
MARRAMARRA,
LEVERET,
thus ensuring no inconvenience.
THE PEOPLE'S COMPANY Reduced the Fare and overthrew grasping Monopoly.
THE MAIN MANLY WHARF, XMAS MORNING, Special Steamer leaving at 7.0 o'clock a.m. direct to the SPLENDID BATHS.
No. 5 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY, to THE MAIN MANLY WHARF, MORNING AND EVENING TRIPS AS USUAL.

WATSON'S BAY.
THE PRETTIEST and MOST FAVOURED of the many spots in "OUR BEAUTIFUL HARBOUR."
STEAMERS from CIRCULAR QUAY, AT INTERVALS THROUGHOUT THE DAY.
REDUCED FARES.
ADULTS, SIXPENCE RETURN. CHILDREN, THREEPENCE.
Steamers for Picnic purposes for Hire.
Apply THE WATSON'S BAY and S.S.S. FERRY CO., Ltd., Circular Quay.
Telephone No., 1857.

WATSON'S BAY.
TO-DAY (CHRISTMAS DAY) TO-DAY
and
TO-MORROW (BOXING DAY) TO-MORROW.
The Oldest, Prettiest, and Most Favoured of the many Spots in OUR BEAUTIFUL HARBOUR, where visitors have a larger choice of objects of interest than in any other Marine Suburb, among which are THE LIGHTHOUSE, THE FAR-FAMED GAP, THE RESERVE, and THE FORTIFICATIONS.
STEAMERS Leave WATSON'S BAY JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY, at SHORT INTERVALS DURING THE DAY.
RETURN FARE, 6d.
The Watson's Bay and S. Shore Steam Ferry Co., Ltd.

SAILING BOAT, 24ft., coppered, with splendid boat-tent and camping outfit, £30. Outfit, Herald Office.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
FUNDS EXCEED £8,000,000.
COMPLETE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION
secures all the advantages of a Local Company, with the additional security afforded by the Funds of the LARGEST FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY IN THE WORLD, and its well-known character for prompt settlements and fair dealing.
N.S.W. BRANCH: 56 PITT-STREET, SYDNEY.
HENRY F. FRANCIS, Local Manager.

SHARK-FISHING.
A REWARD OF 5 GUINEAS is offered for the LARGEST SHARK captured between Xmas and Easter.
THE RELIANCE OIL COMPANY, as an incentive for the destruction of these Harbour Pests, and an encouragement to Local Industry, OFFER THE ABOVE REWARD for the CAPTURE and DELIVERY TO THEIR WORKS, by any Amateur or Fisherman within the colony, of the LARGEST MONSTER CAUGHT.
A FURTHER REWARD is also offered of £1 for SHARKS over 12ft. long delivered within the dates mentioned.
THE RELIANCE OIL COMPANY, REFINERS AND MANUFACTURERS of HIGH-CLASS LUBRICATING OILS, SYDNEY.
TELEPHONE, 1408.

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CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT COLOURED SUPPLEMENT.
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Shipping.

MANLY. MANLY. MANLY.
3d RETURN 3d.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, 1895.
CHRISTMAS AND BOXING DAYS, and NEW YEAR'S DAY.
THE PORT JACKSON S.S. COMPANY, Limited, will run the whole of their Fleet AT FREQUENT INTERVALS, consisting of the following FIRST-CLASS SALOON STEAMERS:—
BRIGHTON, FAIRLIGHT, and NARRABEEN.
Also, the well-known Passenger Steamers COMMODORE, BALMAIN, IRRESISTIBLE, and PORT JACKSON.
TO and FROM MAIN MANLY WHARF AT SHORT INTERVALS.
SPECIAL ATTENTION is called to the SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATION of this Company's Saloon Steamers, which are unsurpassed by any other Ferry Steamers in Australasia.
REMEMBER!
THE PORT JACKSON STEAMSHIP COMPANY WAS THE FIRST TO REDUCE THE FARES.
3d RETURN 3d.
PORT JACKSON STEAMSHIP COMPANY, Limited.

PARRAMATTA RIVER STEAMERS and TRAMWAY CO., Limited.
All Steamers to and from King-street Wharf (terminus of Ocean-street Cable Tram).
Steamers leave Sydney for—
Longnose, Cockatoo, Drummoyne, Hunter's Hill, and Villa Maria—7, 8, 9, 9.30, 10, and 11 a.m.; 12 noon; 1, 2, 3, 4.15, 5.15, 5.45, 6.15, 7, 8, 9.15, 10.30, and 11.15 p.m.
Chiswick, Blandville, Abbotsford, and Gladesville—7, 8, 9.15, 10, and 11 a.m.; 12 noon; 1, 2, 3, 4.15, 5.15, 5.45, 6.15, 7, 8, 9, 9.15, 10.30, and 11.15 p.m.
Tennyson, Cabarita, Putney, Mortlake, Walker Hospital, and Ryde—7, 8, 9, 10, 11 a.m.; 12 noon; 1, 2, 3, 5.15, 6.15, 7, 8, 9, 10.30, 11.15 p.m.
Dundas, Ermington, Newington, and Parramatta—7, 9, 11 a.m.; 1, 3, 5.15 p.m.
On SATURDAYS Steamers will leave at 12.15 and 1.15 p.m., instead of 12 and 1 p.m.

HUNTER'S HILL and LANE COVE RIVER STEAMERS LEAVE
LIME-STREET, foot of Erskine-street, at 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, *12, 1.15, 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7.15, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15, 11.15.
FIG-TREE, HUNTER'S HILL, 7, 8, 8.50, 10, 11, 12 a.m., 1.15, 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15, 11.
SUNDAYS—LIME-STREET, 9, 10, 11, 12, 1 p.m., 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7.15, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15.
FIG-TREE, 8.45, 9.45, 11, 12, 1, 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7.15, 8.15, 9.15, 10.15.
* Saturdays, 12.15.
Picnic Steamers and Recreation Grounds for Hire.
Telephone No., 10, Hunter's Hill.
N. JOUBERT.

SHIP PERICLES, from LONDON.
CONSIGNEES are requested to PASS ENTRIES at once for Dalgety's New Wharf.
The vessel will not be responsible for any loss or damage to cargo after the same has been landed, and any goods impeding discharge will be landed and stored at consignees' risk and expense without further notice.
BILLS of LADING must be produced, freight paid, and delivery orders obtained at the office of the undersigned before any goods will be delivered.
DALGETY and CO., Limited, Agents, 1 Bent-street.

ATLAS DOCK and ENGINEERING WORKS. WOOLWICH, via LANE COVE FERRY. Repairs to Vessels, Machinery, and Boilers executed with despatch. City Office, Lime-street. Telephone, 221; works, 4H.

BOATS to LET, all kinds, no extra for holidays. Vipond's Boatsheds, Rushcutter Bay.

Legal Notices.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—In Divorce.—Between MAY ANN KEARNEY (formerly Mary Ann King), Petitioner, and DAVID BENNETT KEARNEY, Respondent.—To the abovenamed Respondent David Bennett Kearney, late of George-street, Macdonaldtown, Engineer.—TAKE NOTICE that the said Mary Ann Kearney has commenced a suit against you in this Honourable Court, and is applying for a Divorce on the grounds of habitual drunkenness, cruelty, and desertion. And take Notice that you are required to enter an appearance to the said suit, at the proper office of this Honourable Court, within fourteen days after the publication hereof; and in the event of your not doing so within the time limited, or obtaining further time, the Petitioner will proceed, and the suit be heard and determined, your absence notwithstanding. A copy of the Petition filed herein may be had on application to the undersigned free of charge. For the Registrar, (Sd.) JOHN GEO. LEARY (L.S.), Clerk in Divorce. FREDERICK ERNEST WOOD, Solicitor for the Petitioner, 112 King-street, Sydney.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Probate Jurisdiction.—In the Will of JOHN KINGDON CLEEVE, late of Bungarribee, in the colony of New South Wales, Gentleman, deceased.—NOTICE is hereby given that the Second Accounts in the above Estate have this day been filed in my office, Chancery-square, Sydney, and all persons having any claim on the said estate, or being otherwise interested therein, are hereby required to come in before me at my said office on or before the thirteenth day of February next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, and inspect the same, and if they shall think fit object thereto; otherwise, if the said accounts be not objected to, the same will be examined by me and passed according to law. Dated this nineteenth day of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five. T. W. GARRETT (L.S.), Registrar. FRED. GANNON and SONS, Proctors, Federal-chambers, King-street.

LAWYERS!!!!!
"A Will's No Will if the Writing's Gone!"
ARNOLD'S INK!!!!!
Will not Fade! It is Permanent!!

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Accepts Risks upon all descriptions of Properties at Lowest Rates.
LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE, the great Fire and Life Insurance Company of the World.
THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE have £400,000 invested in the colonies.
THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE have Agents in every Township of importance in New South Wales.
LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE settle all Claims immediately upon completion of the Adjuster's Report.
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LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE have Paid £31,000,000 for Losses by Fire.
LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE have Paid over £2,000,000 for Losses by Fire in Australasia.
LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE have an Annual Income of £2,536,382.
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LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE, HEAD OFFICE FOR AUSTRALASIA: 62 PITT-STREET, SYDNEY.
M. W. S. CLARKE, Resident Secretary.

W. CARY and SONS,
820 GEORGE-STREET 820.
SLATES, SLATES, SLATES.
70,000 ALL SIZES BEST PURPLE BANGOR
now landing ex "Ganges."
1,500,000
4ft. 6in. OREGON LATHS, all Sizes,
GREAT REDUCTIONS.
ANCHOR BRAND CEMENT at low rates.
ORB COR. GAL. IRON—5ft., 1s 8d; 6ft., 1s 11d; 7ft., 2s 3d; 8ft., 2s 7d; 9ft., 2s 1d; 10ft., 3s 0d per sheet.
CHAMPION'S GENUINE WHITE LEAD, 26s 3d per cwt.
RAW AND BOILED OILS, 2s 6d per gallon
WIRE NETTING, 24in. x 2in. mesh, 50-YARD ROLLS, 4s 9d; all other sizes in proportion
I.C. COKE TINPLATES, 20 x 14, 13s 3d per box.
COPPER BOILERS—10 gall., 15s 6d; 12 gall., 18s; 14 gall., 20s 6d
BAKERS' OVEN TILES, FIRE LUMPS, FIRE BRICKS' CLAY; FENCING WIRE, 8s per cwt.
BARB WIRE, 16s 6d cwt.; RIDGECAP GUTTERING, Down Pipe, &c.; WALL PAPERS, and all kinds BUILDING and PAINTERS' MATERIALS at lowest rates.
SEND FOR QUOTATIONS.
W. CARY and SONS,
820 GEORGE-STREET 820.

MILK AND CREAM CANS, 18, 22, 24 gauge, CHEAP. LARGE STOCKS. MILNE BROS., 166 Sussex-street.

FRY'S MALTED COCOA.
BEST OF ALL.

CUP BLEND TEA,
PUREST and BEST,
½lb. and lb. Packets and Tins,
at 1s 6d per lb.
ALL GROCERS and STOREKEEPERS.

XMAS GIFTS.
15 PER CENT. OFF ALL TENNIS RACQUETS.
A large assortment of CRICKET, TENNIS, GOLF, and INDOOR GAMES at LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES FOR CASH.
A. H. MOORE'S SPORTS DEPOT, 29 Elizabeth-street. Repairs executed.

Public Notices.

NATIONAL ART GALLERY OF N.S.W.
NOTICE.
This Institution is CLOSED on two days in the year only, viz.:—
On CHRISTMAS DAY and on GOOD FRIDAY.
E. DU FAUR, President.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.
The OFFICES of all Fire and Marine Insurance Companies in the undermentioned Association will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY, 25th, and THURSDAY, 26th December.
Sydney Underwriters' Association.
Fire Underwriters' Association of N.S.W.
J. E. WOODTHORPE, Secretary.

THE VICTORIA INSURANCE COMPANY, Limited.
Offices—88 Pitt-street, Sydney.
NOTICE.
The OFFICES of the above Company will be CLOSED on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, 25th and 26th instant, for the Christmas Holidays.
FREDK. J. JACKSON, Resident Secretary.

EQUITABLE PERMANENT B. BUILDING, LAND, AND SAVINGS INSTITUTION.
Offices: Pitt and Park streets.
These Offices will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, the 25th and 26th instants, for the Christmas Holidays. Repayments due on the 25th instant will be received on FRIDAY, the 27th instant, from 9.30 a.m. till 5 p.m.
WILLIAM CHADWICK, Manager.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.
THE TROCADERO CAFE will be CLOSED THIS DAY, XMAS.
Your faithful servant,
J. MEIER.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
JULIUS SALENGER, Accountant (late 131 The Strand), REMOVED to EXCHANGE CORNER, 63 Pitt-street.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.—The PARTNERSHIP hitherto existing between G. E. MANNING and GEO. BARRACK as MANNING and CO., Fuel Merchants, Milson's-street, Milson's Point, has been DISSOLVED by mutual consent. All Accounts owing to said firm to be paid to George Barrack. (Signed) GEORGE EDWARD MANNING, GEORGE BARRACK. Witness (Signed), JOHN H. LADBROOKE. 16th Dec., 1895.

APOLOGY.
With reference to the paragraph appearing in the "Observer" of Saturday, the 7th instant, under the heading of "S. Cooke (of Melbourne) v. Benham and Co. and W. C. M'Dougall," in which certain references are made to Mr. W. B. M'Farlan, and in respect to which Mr. M'Farlan has taken strong exception, and has threatened us with an action for libel, we hereby unreservedly withdraw any imputation against Mr. M'Farlan's honesty and truthfulness in the paragraph complained of, and we hereby express our regret for inserting the objectionable portions of the paragraph complained of. Mr. M'Farlan's recollection of the interview mentioned was much at variance with Mr. M'Dougall's; but we quite admit that Mr. M'Farlan may have been perfectly honest in the matter, and merely been misled by faulty recollection of what took place some months before.
Dated this 18th day of December, 1895.
(Sgd.) W. C. M'DOUGALL and CO.

DR. P. STANICH, Aural Surgeon, has REMOVED for the summer months to BLACKHEATH, where all correspondence can be addressed.

WIRE-SHUTTERS, and all kinds of Wirework, cheap. F. C. Janson, wireworker, 45 Pitt-st., Circular Quay.

NOTICE.—Telephone, 1970. Oertel's pure and delicious Table Waters and Cordials. Ask for them. 403 Pitt-st.

SIGNWRITERS, &c.—Brown and Ritchie, 20 Elizabeth-st., near Hunter-st. (Gribben's Forge).

THE WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION is now prepared to receive inmates for Female Inebriate Home, Blue Mts. Terms and particulars Miss CATTS, Harrington-street, Marrickville.

JAS. H. ADGER, Dermatologist, treats successfully all diseases of the skin and scalp, loss of hair, premature blanching, and general cultivation and growth of the hair. Advice and Remedy, 10s 6d. Next Australia Hotel, Sydney.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL IS NOW READY. Christmas Stories, Beautiful Illustrations, and Magnificent Coloured Supplement. PRICE 6d. Order of all News Agents, or direct Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

A MESSAGE FROM
THE HAYMARKET (ONLY.)
—
ANTHONY HORDERN'S
BEG TO RETURN THANKS
FOR
THOUSANDS OF FAVOURS,
and wish everyone
A MERRY XMAS.
—
ANTHONY HORDERN AND SONS,
UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS,
HAYMARKET (ONLY).

HEARTFELT THANKS.
THE MISFIT PARLOUR (Registered), 9 WYNYARD-STREET, next to the Bank of New South Wales.
NATHAN HERMAN,
SOLE PROPRIETOR,
most respectfully tenders his heartfelt thanks to Town and Country Constituents for their more than liberal patronage accorded to him during this the first year of his successful venture as a Universal Provider and Warehouseman, wholesale and retail, although at times he had necessarily to put up with plenty of uphill work on account of jealous and evil-minded slanderers, who, unsuccessful themselves, try to retard others. But owing to his exertions to at all times please the public in every case, whether country or town orders have been entrusted to him, he has given entire satisfaction, and this has placed the Misfit Parlour prominently foremost, and enabled him to openly defy contradiction and competition.
In consequence of the success that has attended the efforts of the proprietor of the Misfit Parlour, and the enormous rush of business, the premises, although very large, are inadequate to cope with it, so extensive alterations and enlargements are about to take place, and tenders are to be called for early in January, and these when finished will enable the Misfit Prlour to rank foremost among similar institutions in the Southern Hemisphere.
The Misfit Parlour is a huge warehouse stocked with everything requisite for man, women, and children, and must be seen to be appreciated.
The £3 and £1 Bales are now a household word, and the thousands of Misfits in Clothing, Boots and Shoes, &c., are eagerly snapped up by purchasers who know a bargain when offered to them.
Retail Buyers can therefore get their wants supplied at WHOLESALE PRICES.
A special feature of the business is that everything purchased at the MISFIT PARLOUR is DELIVERED FREE throughout New South Wales.
TO-MORROW (BOXING DAY) for the convenience of country buyers, who can change their old clothes, wash, and have their boots cleaned, and their old clothes delivered, the MISFIT PARLOUR will be open till 1 p.m.
NATHAN HERMAN,
UNIVERSAL PROVIDER and WHOLESALE and RETAIL WAREHOUSEMAN,
9 WYNYARD-STREET,
next door to the Bank of New South Wales.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL is now ready. Christmas Stories, beautiful Illustrations, and magnificent Coloured Supplement. Price, 6d. Order of all news agents, or direct, Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

Religious Announcements.

ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL. CHRISTMAS DAY. Holy Communion, 7, 8, 11 a.m. Preacher, 11 a.m., The PRIMATE. Preacher, 7 p.m., Rev. T. HOLME. Carols after Evening Service.

BURWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—Divine Service, Christmas Day, 11 a.m.

CENTENARY HALL, York-st.—United Choral Service THIS (Christmas) MORNING, at 11. Preacher, Rev. Rainsford Bavin. Xmas carols, solos, anthems, &c. Camp Meeting in Domain at 2.30 p.m., BOXING DAY. Revs. Dr. Porter, S. Harrison, &c. Evangelistic Service in C. Hall, 7.30, BOXING NIGHT. Revs. Dr. Porter, R. Bavin.

CHRIST CHURCH, ST. LAURENCE.—CHRISTMAS DAY; Holy Communion, 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Matins, 10.30 a.m. Choral Eucharist and Sermon, 11 a.m. Evensong, Sermon, and Procession, 7 p.m.

GLEBE Congregational Church.—Rev. E. Adams, Christmas Morning, 11. Special and Anthems. Large choir.

BOURKE-ST. CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—Christmas Service, Rev. Jas. Hill, M.A., at 11.

BOURKE-ST. Wesleyan Ch., S. Hills.—Special Xmas Serv., This Morning, at 11. Rev. G. Lane will preach.

POINT PIPER-RD. CHURCH.—Rev. J. Fordyce, M.A. Divine Service at 11 o'clock.

ST. PAUL'S, Redfern.—Christmas Day: Service at 11 a.m., Carol service 7.30 p.m. Rev. F. B. Boyce.

ST. THOMAS', Balmain.—8 a.m., 11 a.m., and 7.30 p.m., Rev. JOHN DIXON.

THE CLERGY WIDOWS and ORPHANS' FUND for the DIOCESE of SYDNEY. TO-DAY (Christmas Day) COLLECTIONS will be made in the Cathedral and in most of the Anglican Churches on behalf of the Fund. The Fund is at present paying pensions to eleven widows and six orphans. The sum of £5619 5s 5d has, since its formation, been paid as pensions to widows and orphans of the Clergy. Subscriptions and donations are earnestly invited from the Laity. W. BLAIR, Secretary. Anglican-chambers, 176 Pitt-street.

ST. PAUL'S, Redfern.—Christmas Day.—Service 11 a.m., Carol Service 7.30 p.m. Rev. F. B. Boyce.

ST. Simon and St. Jude's, Campbell-st., S. H., 11, 7.30 (D.V.). Communion. E. P. Field, Esq., in the evening.

XMAS.—Lantern and Song Service, Cleveland-st. Wes. Church To-night, 7.45. Rev. J. S. Austin. Collection.

Lost and Found.

AMETHYST STONE, dropped from brooch, Redfern, M. P., Pad. Reward. 91 Bourke-st., Redfern.

"APRICOTEUR" is the registered name for the best APRICOT BRANDY.

LEFT in cab, Redfern to Circ. Quay, 6.30, Lady's UMBRELLA. Reward. North Shore Ferry office.

LOST, "that tired feeling" after drinking the genuine Apricot Brandy, at the Café Français in George-st.

LOST, the morning Headache, now that I stick to Dickens' Whisky.

LOST, Railway Season Ticket, "Powell." Please return Collector, Custom-house. Reward or expa. if req.

LOST, Fox-terrier PUP, on Saturday. Reward. Adam Beer's Hotel, Cleveland-st.

LOST, gold Mandolin BROOCH. Finder please return Miss Fernandez, Munville House, Phillip-st. Reward.

LOST, near Wilson-st., Newtown, small POCKET-BOOK. Reward at 50 Enmore-rd.

LOST, 6.30 Parramatta train, Tuesday, long Brown Purse, photo, papers. Rew. H. G. Curnow, 32 O'Connell-st.

LOST, between Summerhill and Homebush, Tan Leather BAG, containing 2 purses. Finder rewarded. Apply Malpas, Victoria-street, Ashfield.

LOST at Newtown, silver open-face Geneva WATCH, No. 5914. Finder will be rewarded by returning same to W. T. PRUDAMES, c.o. Angus and Son, Sloane-street, Newtown.

LOST near G.P.O., POCKET-BOOK, containing return ticket to Albany. Liberal reward if returned to Evening News Office at once.

REWARD £5.—Lost Kensington Races, Pocket-book containing val. papers, jewellery. G. P., Park-st. P.O.

FOUND, that at Power's Hotel Dickens' Whisky and Sloe Gin (a novelty in liqueurs) is obtainable.

CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL IS NOW READY. CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT COLOURED SUPPLEMENT. PRICE, 6d. Order of all NEWS AGENTS, or direct HEAD OFFICE, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

FRENCH CORSETS.—The P.D. CORSETS awarded highest honours wherever exhibited. Indisputably the best fitting. Obtainable from leading drapers everywhere.

W. T. WATERS AND CO.,
LADIES' OUTFITTERS,
KING-STREET.
LADIES spending CHRISTMAS in the city will find a Choice Assortment of
FRENCH MILLINERY,
including
THE NEW SAILOR with Beefeater Crown, in a variety of shapes.
Trimmed, from 4s 11d.
W. T. WATERS and CO.,
KING-STREET, NEXT GEORGE-STREET.

AN UNBROKEN RECORD.
For more than 20 years
PACIFIC RUBBER PAINTS
have been used for all kinds of purposes, and under all conditions under the torrid heat of the Tropics, and the cold of the Arctic; in the damp climate of the Islands, including New Guinea; on the dry plains of California and the interior of Australia; by old and skilled painters, and by the most inexperienced persons, for every variety of ARCHITECTURAL, COMMERCIAL, and MECHANICAL Painting, and given such complete satisfaction that to-day the trade is larger than ever before.
NO OTHER PAINT can POINT TO SUCH A RECORD.
These Paints are made in VARIED and BEAUTIFUL SHADES of COLOUR, are mixed ready for use, and anyone can apply them.
They are remarkable in their resistance to SEA AIR and to GLARING SUN. Some of the best Residences in MANLY have been painted with them, and in this favourite seaside resort their superiority is an established fact.
Unquestionably the BEST and CHEAPEST PAINTS in the Market.
SAMPLE BOOKS, with Revised Price Lists, forwarded free on application.
BUZACOTT and CO., Ship Chandlers and General Importers, Market and Sussex streets, Sydney, SOLE AGENTS for the PACIFIC RUBBER PAINT COMPANY.

CELLULAR UNDERWEAR,
the most HEALTHY and COMFORTABLE.
New Price Lists and Pamphlets Post Free.
CELLULAR CLOTHING DEPOT, 305 and 307 George-street, Sydney (nearly opposite Hunter-street).

Tenders.

ARTISTS and PAINTERS.—If you want best quality Goods for Lowest Cost, buy from JAMES SANDY and CO., 271 and 330 George-street.

A FACT.—C. FRAENKEL'S SALVAGE FIRE SALE now on. All Goods sold regardless of cost. Remember, it is at 369 George-street.

BOROUGH OF NARRABRI.
TENDERS FOR ELECTRIC-LIGHTING.
NOTICE is hereby given that the time for receiving TENDERS for Lighting this Borough with Electricity has been extended to SATURDAY, the 4th JANUARY, 1896.
Particulars can be ascertained on application to the undersigned. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
EDW. GUEST, Council Clerk.
Town Hall, Narrabri, 21st December, 1895.

BLUE METAL, GRAVEL, and RIVER SAND SCREENINGS AT REDUCED PRICES; also, SPAWLS and CUBES from PROSPECT QUARRIES. EMU GRAVEL and ROAD METAL CO., Ltd., 15 Norwich-chambers, Hunter-street.

DAMPCOURSE, pure bitumen, portable rolls, cheaper, better than import. or slate. Asphaltum Co., Lime-st.

THE WUNDERLICH PATENT CEILING and ROOFING CO., Limited, Baptist-street, Redfern. Telephone, 1420.
ZINC CEILINGS, MILD STEEL and IRON CEILINGS, CENTRE FLOWERS, CASTINGS, &c.
ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.
FRENCH ROOFING TILES (all best brands) in stock and to arrive.
Sole Agents to F. Liebentritt, Enfield.
TERRA-COTTA CRESTING, FINIALS, &c.

TENDERS are invited for Erection of five 4-storied Houses, Orwell-street, off Macleay-street, Potts Point, until 11th January. Plans, specifications, and all particulars with the Architect, at 72 Pitt-street. FERDINAND H. REUSS, Jun., Architect.

TENDERS are invited for the Supply and Erection, near Tamworth, of one Water-Jacket Smelting Furnace capable of treating from 6 to 10 tons of copper ore per diem. Tenders addressed Copper, Box 37 P.O., Newcastle.

TILES, MANTELS, &c.—Cheapest and best TILES in Market. Large stock. Samples of every known kind of tiles. Craven, Dunnill, and Co.'s celebrated make. J. PARTRIDGE, 11 Macquarie-street South, Sydney.

TO BUILDERS and Others.—Glazing, 16oz., 3d per ft., 21oz., 4d; White Lead, 24s cwt.; Champion's, 26s 3d; Gen. Linseed Oil, 2s 6d gal.; Wall Papers, 3½d roll. All goods deliv. V. J. Bennett and Co., 108 George-street W.

TENDERS.—Wanted, Price laying Bricks, per thousand. Hicks, Bristol-rd., Hurstville.

TERRA-COTTA, Ridging and Cresting, Hip Tiles, Finials, &c., sup. quality. Symons and Co., Fairfield.

G. E. CRANE and SONS, Marble Mantelpieces, Grates, Flooring and Hearth Tiles, Grates, Gasaliers, Globes, &c.; large assortment at lowest prices. Steam Marble Works, Showrooms, and Stores, 19 to 31 Pitt-st., Cir. Q.

Building Materials.

GOODLET and SMITH, Limited.
TIMBER, GALVANISED IRON, and GLASS MERCHANTS.
Head Office: 493 GEORGE-STREET, SYDNEY.
Branch Yard: 767 HARRIS-STREET, near REDFERN STATION.
Sawmills and Joinery Works, Pyrmont.
Drain Pipe and Brick Works, Riley-street.
Terra Cotta Roofing and Drain Tile Works, Granville.
Cement and Brick Works, Granville.
Bush Sawmills, Coolongolook.
Bush Sawmills, Kiola.
Limeworks, Excelsior.
SELL AT LOWEST PRICES.

THE KAURI TIMBER COMPANY, LIMITED,
BEING DIRECT IMPORTERS OF

SELL	KAURI	SEND
WHOLESALE	OREGON	FOR
AND	REDWOOD	NOVEMBER
	HARDWOOD	
RETAIL	DOORS	PRICE
CHEAPEST	MOULDINGS	LIST.
RATES.	STAVES	
	GALVD. IRON, &c.	

R. WALKER, Manager.
Blackwattle Bay, Glebe.

CHEAP TIMBER OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS
THE FEDERAL TIMBER COMPANY, Gordon-street, Balmain West.
500,000ft. OREGON, just landed ex "Elwell," "Cumpheme" and "Margaret." NORTHERN HARDWOOD, the largest and best assorted stock in the market, including Tallowwood Decking. 150,000ft. AMERICAN REDWOOD, thoroughly seasoned. IRONBARK GIRDERS, in stock and to arrive. Doors, Architraves, Skirting, Moulding, &c., at further reduced prices. SPECIAL REDUCTION TO CASH BUYERS.
Telephone 158. W. LANGLEY, Manager.

ENAMELLED ART MANTEL PIECES.—New and handsome designs, Walnut, Gold, and Marble Patterns. A great variety in stock ready for immediate delivery. Wholesale and retail, from 4s 6d each. Send for prices and designs.
SAXTON and BINNS, Manufacturers, Pyrmont.

SAXTON and BINNS,
PYRMONT, Cheapest and Best House for BUILDING MATERIALS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS. Timber, Joinery, Mouldings, and Turnery, Stock or to detail. SEND FOR PRICES.

ELPHINSTONE and CO., Petersham, Steam Pottery Works, Drain Pipes, &c. Lowest prices.

Miscellaneous.

WANTED, kind Person to take Charge of Baby Boy, 1 month old. Address N. N., Herald Office, King-st.

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Government Railways.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued from all Stations to all Stations (except for distances not exceeding 15 miles between stations on the Sydney and Newcastle Suburban Sections), by all trains until WEDNESDAY, 1st January, 1896, both days inclusive, available for return until FRIDAY, 31st January, 1896.

THROUGH CHEAP EXCURSION TICKETS will also be issued to Melbourne, Adelaide, Broken Hill, and Brisbane.

Cheap Excursion Tickets at 2d per mile first class (return), minimum 5s, and 1d per mile second class (return), minimum 2s 6d, will be issued at Sydney and Suburban stations to the country by trains leaving Sydney as under:—

SOUTH COAST LINE.
25th and 26th December.—7.38 a.m. for Nowra.

SOUTHERN LINE.
25th and 26th December.—7.55 a.m. for Goulburn.

WESTERN LINE.
25th and 26th December.—8 a.m. for Eskbank.

NORTHERN LINE.
26th December.—8.15 a.m. for Newcastle (7.48 a.m. from Milson's Point).

Available for return by any train (Melbourne Express excepted) up to MONDAY, 6th January, 1896, inclusive.

SIMILAR TICKETS to SYDNEY (only) will be issued by train leaving:—
NOWRA at 4.35 a.m. on 26th December.
GOULBURN, at 5 a.m. on 26th December.
ORANGE, at 1.45 a.m. on 26th December.
WEST MAITLAND, at 5 a.m. on 26th December.
NEWCASTLE, at 6 a.m. on 26th December.

And will also be available for return by any train (Melbourne Express excepted), up to 6th January, 1896, inclusive.

ROUND TRIP SYDNEY TO NOWRA, and return via Moss Vale, through Kangaroo Valley, and over the Barrengarry Mountains.

Cheap Excursion Tickets at 15s 4d first class and 7s 6d second class will be issued at Sydney to Nowra by the trains leaving Sydney at 5.30 and 7.30 p.m. on 25th December, available for return by train from Moss Vale at 8.6 p.m. on 26th December and 1st January, or by the 6.50 a.m. on 27th December and 2nd January.

The Coach leaves Nowra at 9.30 a.m. on 26th December, reaching Moss Vale at 5.30 p.m. same day. Fare, 10s.

TICKETS AT SPECIALLY LOW FARES WILL ALSO BE ISSUED FROM SYDNEY AND ILLAWARRA SUBURBAN STATIONS TO NATIONAL PARK on 25th and 26th December.

FIRST-CLASS, RETURN 1s 6d
SECOND-CLASS, RETURN 1s 0d

In addition to the ordinary service, Special Trains will run from Sydney as follows:—

SOUTH COAST LINE.
25th December—7.38 a.m. and 7.30 p.m., for Nowra.
26th December—7.38 a.m. and 7.30 p.m., for Nowra; 9.30 a.m., for Kiama; 11.38 p.m., for Sutherland.

SOUTHERN LINE.
25th and 26th December—7.55 a.m., for Goulburn.

NORTHERN LINE.
25th December—9.10 a.m., for Gosford.
26th December—8.15 a.m., for Newcastle; 9.10 a.m., for Hawkesbury; 9.20 a.m., for Hawkesbury and Gosford.

WESTERN LINE.
25th December—8 a.m., for Eskbank.
26th December—8 a.m., for Eskbank; 1.30 p.m. and 11.35 p.m. for Mount Victoria.

A Special Service of Trains will be run from Sydney at frequent intervals to Rockdale (Lady Robinson's Beach), Kogarah (Sans Souci and Sandringham), Como, Sutherland, and National Park.

An Improved Service of Trains will also be run on the Richmond, Milson's Point, and Belmore Lines.

ALTERED RUNNING OF TRAINS.

MAIN SUBURBAN LINE.
WEDNESDAY, 25th DECEMBER, 1895
(CHRISTMAS DAY),
the following Trains WILL NOT RUN:—

The 5.35 and 6.35 a.m., Sydney to Homebush; the 5.35, 7.15, 8.10, and 8.30 a.m., Homebush to Sydney; the 7.18, 7.46, 8.15, and 8.26 a.m., Ashfield to Sydney.

The 8 a.m. train, Homebush to Sydney, will run on the slow line, and call at all stations, reaching Sydney at 8.31 a.m.

The 8.0 a.m. train, Parramatta to Sydney, will also call at Strathfield at 8.22 a.m.

A SPECIAL RELIEF TRAIN will leave Homebush for Sydney at 10.52 a.m., calling at all stations.

After 4 p.m. the Main Suburban Service will be the same as on Saturdays, with the following exception:—The 5 p.m. train, Parramatta to Sydney, will call at all stations, Parramatta to Ashfield inclusive (except Flemington), reaching Sydney at 5.46 p.m.

THURSDAY, 26th DECEMBER, 1895.
The following Trains WILL NOT RUN:—

The 5.35 and 6.35 a.m., Sydney to Homebush; the 5.35, 7.15, and 8.10 a.m., Homebush to Sydney; the 7.18 a.m., Ashfield to Sydney; the 9.28 a.m., Funeral, Sydney to Rookwood Cemetery; the 11 a.m., Funeral, Rookwood Cemetery to Sydney.

SPECIAL RELIEF TRAINS will leave Ashfield for Sydney at 9.45, 10.15, and 10.50 a.m., and Homebush for Sydney at 5.42 p.m., calling at all stations.

A SPECIAL RELIEF TRAIN will also leave Parramatta for Sydney at 10.20 a.m., calling at Granville, Auburn, Rookwood, Homebush, and Strathfield, and be due to reach Sydney at 10.56 a.m.

The 8 a.m. train, Parramatta to Sydney, will also call at Strathfield at 8.22 a.m.

After 4 p.m. the Main Suburban Service will be the same as on Saturdays, with the following exceptions:—The 5 p.m. train, Parramatta to Sydney, will call at all stations Parramatta to Ashfield inclusive (except Flemington), reaching Sydney at 5.46 p.m. The 7.20 p.m. train, Homebush to Sydney, will call at all stations.

ILLAWARRA SUBURBAN LINE.
WEDNESDAY, 25th DECEMBER (CHRISTMAS DAY).
The following trains will not run:—

7.40 a.m. and 6.32 p.m., Sydney to Hurstville; 5.52 a.m., Como to Hurstville.

5.27 p.m., Sydney to Kogarah.

5, 5.35, 6.45, 7.15, 7.38, and 8.5 a.m., Hurstville to Sydney.

The 5.35 p.m. train, Sydney to Como, and the 6.30 p.m., Sydney to Loftus, will call at all stations.

The 7.25 a.m. train, Waterfall to Sydney, will call at all stations, and be due Sydney at 8.47 a.m.

THURSDAY, 26th DECEMBER.
The following trains will not run:—

7.40 a.m., Sydney to Hurstville; 5.52 a.m., Como to Hurstville.

5.35, 6.45, and 7.15 a.m., Hurstville to Sydney.

5.27 p.m., Sydney to Kogarah; but the 5.35 p.m. train, Sydney to Como, will call at all stations.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS.
HAWKESBURY RIVER TRIPS.

CHRISTMAS DAY AND BOXING DAY.

Excursion Trains will leave Sydney and Milson's Point for the Hawkesbury as follows:—

On WEDNESDAY (CHRISTMAS DAY) leave Sydney at 9.10 a.m., and Milson's Point at 9.40 a.m.; on THURSDAY (BOXING DAY) leave Sydney at 9.10 and 9.20 a.m., Milson's Point at 9.30 a.m.

On arrival at Hawkesbury River, Excursionists will embark on the s.s. General Gordon, and will be taken for a trip down the River, 70 miles by Rail, and 36 by Steamer.

RETURN FARES (including Trip on Steamer):—FIRST-CLASS, 5s 6d; SECOND-CLASS, 3s 6d.

CLOSING OF GOODS SHEDS AND CENTRAL BOOKING OFFICE.

On 25th and 26th December the GOODS SHED at REDFERN and ALEXANDRIA will be CLOSED. DARLING HARBOUR GOODS SHED will be CLOSED on 25th December, but on 26th December will be open until 10 a.m. for the delivery of perishable traffic. The CENTRAL BOOKING OFFICE will be closed on 25th December, but on 26th December will be OPEN until 10 a.m. for the Sale of Tickets and delivery of perishable parcels only.

The Goods Sheds at other Stations will be Closed on 25th December, and also on 26th December, except for the receipt and delivery of perishable traffic.

Further particulars can be obtained from all stationmasters.

By order of the Commissioners,
H. M'LACHLAN, Secretary.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT TRAMWAYS.

CHRISTMAS DAY TRAMWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

Trams will run as on ordinary days, with the exception of the following trips from the suburbs to Bridge-street which will be cancelled:—

4.50 a.m., ex Botany; 5 a.m., ex Dulwich Hill; 5.1 a.m. ex Waverley; 5.16 a.m., ex Enmore; 5.6 a.m., ex Leichhardt; 5.20 a.m., ex Waterloo; 5.25 a.m., ex Glebe Point.

In connection with the Lillie Bridge Races, Specials will leave Bent-street at 1.50, 2.10, and 2.50 p.m.

BOXING DAY (26th DECEMBER) TRAMWAY ARRANGEMENTS.

Special trams will be run on all lines and at frequent intervals from Bent-street to Coogee Aquarium, Bondi Aquarium, and Bondi Beach. The Saturday service will be in operation on the following lines:—

Abbotsford, Balmain, Enfield, North Shore Cable and Electric.

RANDWICK RACES.

Special Trams will leave Bent-street for the Racecourse Platform at frequent intervals via Oxford-street, commencing at 10.40 a.m., and from the Railway Steps, Devonshire-street, via Cleveland-street commencing at 11.40 a.m.

A First-class Special (fare 2s 6d return) will leave Bridge-street at 11.30 a.m.

Return Tickets at 1s 6d each may be obtained at the following ticket offices:—Bent-street, Hunter-street, King-street, Park-street, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool-street, Railway Tram Ticket Office, and Central Booking Office, George-street. The Single Fare by ordinary Tram Tickets, or by Cash, will be 1s.

Ordinary Trams from Randwick will stop at the Racecourse and Kensington Platforms up to 3 p.m., BUT NOT BETWEEN 3.30 and 5.30 p.m. Ordinary Trams from Bent-street WILL NOT STOP at the Racecourse or Kensington Platforms BETWEEN 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' DEMONSTRATION AT AGRICULTURAL GROUND.

Special Trams will leave Bent-street for the Agricultural Ground, via Oxford-street, at frequent intervals, commencing at 9.34 a.m., and from the Railway steps, Devonshire-street, via Cleveland-street, at frequent intervals, commencing at 10.0 a.m., returning from the Ground frequently throughout the day.

Fare, threepence each way.

OCEAN-STREET CABLE TRAMWAY.

During the holidays the Cable Cars will run at frequent intervals and later than usual, as shown below:—

		From Ocean-street to King-street.	From King-street to Ocean-street.
24th Dec'ber, 26th Dec'ber, 1st January	First Tram	7.30 a.m.	8.15 a.m.
	Last Tram	11.35 p.m.	12. Midnight
25th Dec'ber	First Tram	8.30 a.m.	9.15 a.m.
	Last Tram	10.47 p.m.	11.11 p.m.
31st Dec'ber	First Tram	7.30 a.m.	8.15 a.m.
	Last Tram 12.5 a.m. (1st January).		12.30 a.m. (1st Jan.)

By order of the Commissioners,
H. M'LACHLAN, Secretary.
24th December, 1895.

Amusements.

THEATRE ROYAL.

Sole Lessee and Manager ... Mr. C. B. Westmacott
Treasurer and Business Manager ... Mr. Frank Barnes

The Farcical Musical Comedy, in 3 acts

PAT or the BELLS OF RATHBEAL. PAT

Overture at 7.45.

Interpreted by the following Favourite Artists:—

Mr. WILFRED E. SHINE.

Miss ALLIE SENIOR. Mr. J. DRISCOLL FOLEY

Miss HARRIE IRELAND.

Mr. C. B. WESTMACOTT. Miss BEANEY GALLETLY.

Miss MINNA PHILLIPS.

Miss FANNIE EVELYN. Mr. C. R. STANFORD.

Miss FLORRIE FORDE.

Mr. J. W. HAZLITT. Miss DAISY HOLLY.

Mr. J. W. SWEENEY.

Also the Sisters ANDERSON, Little MARIE LOHR, and complete CORPS DE BALLET.

The Scenery by ... ... Mr. John Brunton
The Orchestra under the baton of ... Mr. David Cope
The production under the direction of ... Mr. J. W. Hazlitt

BOX PLAN at the Theatre.

Prices: Dress circle and reserved stalls, 5s; stalls, 2s; gallery, 1s. Early doors open at 6.55. Tickets (6d extra) obtainable only at Power's tobacconist shop, King-street. The pay boxes will be opened for the sale of general admission tickets at 7.15.

THEATRE ROYAL.

BOXING DAY. BOXING DAY.

THERE WILL BE A MATINEE of

PAT or the BELLS OF RATHBEAL. PAT

Doors open at 1.30. Commence at 2 p.m.

R. C. HAGON,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
129 KING-STREET, SYDNEY.

TWEED SAC SUITS TO ORDER, THREE GUINEAS.

SUITS FORWARDED TO THE COUNTRY POSTAGE PAID.

Purchasers residing at a distance have, through this means, the advantage of being supplied direct from the largest and choicest stock of Tweeds and Coatings in Sydney. Many of these Tweeds are imported direct from the makers, and cannot be obtained elsewhere.

Patterns with self-measure forms sent to all parts of the country.

PONY RACES.

THIS (CHRISTMAS) AFTERNOON.
LILLIE BRIDGE.
PONY CARNIVAL (100 Sovs.).
6 RACES. 103 ACCEPTORS.
Special Forest Lodge and Glebe Point trams every few minutes.

A GUID NEW YEAR TO "ANE AN' A."
HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

GRAND CONCERT.

CITY TOWN HALL,
1st JANUARY, 1896.

Under the Patronage and in the Presence of HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR and COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, &c.

NONE BUT FIRST-CLASS ARTISTS ENGAGED.

FULL PROGRAMME IN DAILY PAPERS, THURSDAY, 26th instant.

ADMISSION:
Reserved Seats, 4s; Unreserved, 3s, 2s, 1s.

Reserved Seats can be obtained at PALING'S on and after 26th instant.

NOTE.—Members are requested to secure their seats as early as possible to enable the Committee to provide proper seating accommodation.

J. SOUTER, Hon. Sec. Concert Com.
GORDON MARR, Hon. Sec. Highland Society.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

THE Great Attraction that Day will be THE HIGHLAND GATHERING, SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND.

OVER 150 EVENTS, including—

Bicycle Races	Dancing (all kinds)
Obstacle Races	Piping
Caber Tossing	Putting Stone
Vaulting	Jumping.

The World-renowned Aeronaut, Professor PRICE, will Ascend from the Ground in his Balloon to a Distance of 3000ft., and make his Startling Parachute Descent from Mid-air.

To Enjoy the Whole of this Splendid Programme the Charge will be ONLY ONE SHILLING.

RANDWICK RACES.—Country Visitors are reminded that the Leger Stand commands a splendid view of the races, and that the Lawn in front for promenading is now at its best.
Admission only 2s.
Take the road to the right after entering front gates.

DRINK CORRYCHOILLIE BLEND WHISKY.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL IS NOW READY.
Christmas Stories, Beautiful Illustrations, and Magnificent Coloured Supplement.
PRICE 6d. Order of all News Agents, or direct Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

HAVE YOU TRIED THE NEW SMOKE,
THE
"HAMPDEN"
CIGARETTE?
MADE FROM THE FINEST AMERICAN TOBACCO.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

LESSEES and MANAGERS ... ... Messrs. WILLIAMSON and MUSGROVE.
SUB-LESSEES and MANAGERS ... ... Mr. BROUGH and Mr. BOUCICAULT.
Acting Manager and Treasurer, Geo. L. Goodman; Representative, Mr. Mayne.

Mr. BROUGH and Mr. BOUCICAULT take pleasure in announcing the INAUGURATION OF THEIR COMEDY SEASON TO-MORROW NIGHT, DECEMBER 26, and the Reappearance in Sydney of Mr. and Mrs. BROUGH after their visit to Europe, in conjunction with the Members of their Company, which includes Messrs. BOUCICAULT, TITHERADGE, WARD, CAREY, DORRINGTON, M'INTYRE, Mesdames FABER, TEMPLE, HARDY, MPONG, WATT-TANNER, HILL.

During the Season a Number of New Plays will be Produced, and Special Revivals will be given of some ever-welcome Comedies.

PROGRAMME FOR FIRST EIGHT NIGHTS OF THE BROUGH-BOUCICAULT SEASON.

THURS., DEC. 26, FRI., DEC. 27,	THE AMAZONS.	SAT., DEC. 28, MON., DEC. 30,	NIOBE.
TUES., DEC. 31, WED., JAN. 1,	THE MAGISTRATE.	THURS., JAN. 2, FRI., JAN. 3,	DANDY DICK.

Box Plan now open at Nicholson and Co.'s and A. Hordern and Sons'.
PRICES AS USUAL. Early Doors 1s Extra. Day Tickets at Adam's Marble Bar.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
The Box Plan for the opening night will be on view at the Treasurer's Office, Castlereagh-street, To-morrow, Thursday, from 10 till 4.

CENTENARY HALL, YORK-STREET.

TO-NIGHT. TO-NIGHT.

GRAND SACRED AND CLASSICAL CONCERT.

ANTOINETTE TREBELLI,

THE MOST MARVELLOUS SOPRANO THAT HAS EVER VISITED AUSTRALIA.

MADEMOISELLE TREBELLI will sing "LET THE BRIGHT SERAPHIM" (Handel), "THE SOUL'S AWAKENING" (Haddock), "AVE MARIA" (Mascagni), with Violin and Organ Accompaniment, and "HOME, SWEET HOME" (Bishop).

Miss BLANCHE THOMAS will sing "CREATION'S HYMN" (Beethoven) and "THERE IS A GREEN HILL FAR AWAY" (Gounod).

Signor DE BEAUPUIS will play TANNHAUSER OVERTURE (Wagner-Liszt), and RHAPSODIE No. 2 (Liszt).

Monsieur HORACE POUSSARD will play "BERCEUSE" (Rober), and Intermezzo (Poussard).

Messieurs POUSSARD, DE BEAUPUIS, and SYKES will play Trios for Violin, Organ, and Piano, MARCHE RELIGEUSE, from "LOHENGRIN" (Wagner-Saint-Saens), and Meditation (Dubois).

POPULAR PRICES, 3s, 2s, and 1s.

DOORS OPEN AT 6.30 p.m. J. EDWARD SYKES.

SYDNEY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

TOWN HALL, CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

THE MESSIAH.

PRINCIPALS:
Miss COLBOURNE BABER
Mrs. F. J. RILEY
Mr. HENRY WEIR
Mr. F. J. HALLEWELL.

ORGANIST:
M. AUG. WIEGAND.

CHORUS OF 300 VOICES.

ORCHESTRA OF 60 PERFORMERS,
led by
Mr. G. RIVERS ALLPRESS.

CONDUCTOR:
SIGNOR ROBERTO HAZON.

1000 SEATS AT 1s. 1000 AT 2s. 1000 AT 3s.

SEATS MAY BE RESERVED IN THE GALLERIES AT A FEE OF 1s EACH. TICKETS AND PLAN AT TOWN HALL FROM 11 TILL 4.

YOUR OWN PORTRAIT.

Twelve of our lovely Rococo Portraits and a charming Rococo Enlargement, on a mount 24 x 18, for 15s. No extras of any kind. The Rococo Portraits are absolutely permanent.

Twelve of our beautiful Fine Art Cabinets and a splendid Enlargement on Opal, finished in the best style of High Art, for 1l 5s, without extras of any kind.

We GUARANTEE to every Customer Natural Posing, Artistic Lighting, Effective Retouching, and Skilful Finish. Our PORTRAITS are known Everywhere for fine gradation in half tone, with a boldness that makes every Picture stand out admirably crisp and delicate.

THE CROWN STUDIOS THE CROWN STUDIOS

CORNER OF GEORGE AND MARKET STREETS, SYDNEY.

PICTURES AT XMAS.

If you have friends coming at Xmas, don't you think you had better have another picture or two, especially as they are so cheap? And Photo Frames are surprisingly cheap. Our Bevelled Mirrors are charmingly fascinating and ridiculously cheap.

THE CROWN FRAMING WORKS,

474 GEORGE-STREET (OPPOSITE THE MARKETS), SYDNEY.

ORGAN RECITAL.

TOWN HALL.
TO-NIGHT at 8 TO-NIGHT.
SPECIAL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
"THE STORM," Idylle No. 1.
"Maritana," "La Traviata," "Stabat Mater," "Don Giovanni," "Allelujah Chorus."
ADMISSION, 6d and 1s.

CLIFTON GARDENS.

BOXING DAY.

MARVELLOUS BALLOON ASCENT AND PARACHUTE DESCENT,

by the

CELEBRATED AMERICAN AERONAUT,

Professor J. W. PRICE.

1s. RETURN STEAMER FARE. 1s.

BALLROOM DANCING in the PORT JACKSON PAVILION.

Admission:
GENTLEMEN, 1s;
LADIES FREE.

HOT WATER, SWINGS, MERRY-GO-ROUNDS, &c., FREE.

STEAMERS LEAVE JETTY (foot of Phillip-street) EVERY TEN MINUTES, from 9.30 a.m. till 8 p.m.

A STEAMER LEAVES JOHN-STREET, PYRMONT, at 10.30, and DARLING-STREET, BALMAIN, at 10.45 a.m.

A. J. THOMPSON, Manager.

Telephone, 17, North Sydney.

COOGEE PALACE AQUARIUM.
TO-DAY CHRISTMAS DAY TO-DAY.
GRAND CONCERT OF FIRST-CLASS ARTISTS.
TO-MORROW BOXING DAY TO-MORROW.
The Most Attractive Programme of the Day.
Dancing at intervals during day, and from conclusion of programme till 11 p.m.
The Bavarian Brass Band. The Haunted Swing.
Val. Traynor (Johnny Coleman's double) will sing "M'Ginty" and "John M'Gee." Professor Gibson, the only Battle-axe Swinger and Axe Juggler in Australia, and a host of very clever talent.

SYDNEY to Jenolan Caves, Combination Ticket only. Cooper's Booking Office, 1a Hunter-st. 70s return.

COOK'S EXCURSIONS to Jenolan Caves, Hawkesbury River, Illawarra District, &c. Tickets, 4 Hunter-st.

NOW READY.
AUSTRALIAN MUSIC PORTFOLIO.
Splendid collection of Favourite Songs and Dance Music, handsome cover, one shilling, posted 1s 2d.
GORDON and GOTCH, and all Musicsellers.

NEWPORT HOTEL, prettily situated, lovely ground, first-class accommodation, liberal cuisine, &c. comfort for visitors. Luncheon, 1s 6d, prov. on arrival steamer Boxing Day. Best brands Wines, Spirits. S. Greig, prop.

NEW YEAR'S GOODS.

STYLISH and HANDSOME PATTERNS.
To be Opened as soon after January 1st as can be obtained from the ship.
Suits to Order at £3 3s.
Perfect Fit and Stylishly Made.
HAGON BROTHERS,
Merchant Tailors,
150 Pitt-street, and 107-109 Oxford-street.
Patterns and self-measurement forms will be posted free on application.

AUSTRALIAN JOCKEY CLUB.
AUSTRALIAN JOCKEY CLUB.
SUMMER (1895) MEETING.
Patron:
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FIRST RACE AT HALF-PAST TWELVE O'CLOCK.
SIX RACES.
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N.S.W. JUNIOR CRICKET ASSOCIATION.
SYDNEY JUNIORS v. NORTH COAST DISTRICT.
BOXING DAY, and SATURDAY, 26th December. 28th December.
GATES opened 26th at 9.30 a.m.; on 28th at 1 p.m.
GAME starts 26th at 10 a.m.; on 28th at 2 p.m.
ADMISSION, 6d to Ground; 6d extra to Grand Stand.
MEMBERS must produce their tickets at the gates.
By order of the Trustees.
S. H. FAIRLAND, Secretary.
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CHRISTMAS SAILING RACES.

THIS AFTERNOON, at Clark Island, Special Programme arranged by Sydney Flying Squadron. Lobelia leaves Lime-street wharf 2.30, Bald Rock 2.45, Stephen-street 2.50, Point-street, Pyrmont, 2.55, Darling-street 3 o'clock; and the Agenoria leaves Prince's Stairs, Circular Quay, at 3 and 3.30, returning to town by 5.30 o'clock.

Return Tickets, 1s; Ladies, 6d.

JOHN RAMSAY } Hon.
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BOXING DAY.
Return, One Shilling.
DANCING IN THE PAVILION.
Admission, One Shilling. Ladies, Free.
Children not admitted.
Steamers leave Prince's Stairs from 9.30 a.m. until 3 p.m.
Last return, 6 p.m.
TRIP to the head of Middle Harbour, 3 p.m.

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IS NOW READY.
CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT
COLOURED SUPPLEMENT.
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TEETH.—A COMPLETE SET, ONE GUINEA. THE LONDON DENTAL INSTITUTE, 99 KING-STREET, SYDNEY.—Single Tooth, 2s 6d; precisely the same CELEBRATED GOLD and PRIZE MEDAL TEETH, painlessly fixed by ATMOSPHERIC SUCTION, as advertised at the highest cost by other firms. FIVE YEARS' WARRANTY. Country patients supplied in one visit. PAINLESS EXTRACTIONS with GAS, &c.

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Amusements.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT'S PRINCIPAL ATTRACTION
TO-NIGHT'S PRINCIPAL ATTRACTION.

HENRI KOWALSKI'S ORATORIO,

FUTURE LIFE.

PROGRAMME:

Mr. CHARLES HUENERBEIN, Musical Director.

1. Unaccompanied Quartette—"Come, Gentle Zephyr" (Horsley), the "Meistersanger Quartette."
2. Soprano Solo { Recit., "O, Worse than Death Indeed!" Aria, "Angels Ever Bright and Fair" } Handel. Miss ETHEL SEARLE.
3. "Across the Pacific," Grand Fantasia (op. 88), Piano, with Orchestral Accompaniment, conducted by Mr. CHARLES HUENERBEIN. (1, Allegro, "Leaving America"; 2, Andante, "Under the Tropics"; 3, Scherzo, "In Sight of Australia"; 4, "Landing in Australia") (Kowalski). M. HENRI KOWALSKI.
4. Meditation—"Ave Maria" (Gounod), Mrs. F. T. TRUSCOTT. (Obbligati—Violin, Mr. Hall; 'Cello, Mr. Straus; Organ, Mr. J. Ashcroft Edwards; Piano, Mr. Gehde).
5. Song—"Heaven and Earth" (Pinsuti), Mr. H. T. GORDON.
6. Song—"Twilight of Love" (Kowalski), Miss HETTY HOLROYD (Obbligati—Violin, Miss Muriel Griffiths; 'Cello, Miss Bessie Griffiths), Accompanied by the Composer.
7. 'Cello Solo—"Andante" (Godard), Mr. EDGAR STRAUS.

FUTURE LIFE (First Part), conducted by the composer, HENRI KOWALSKI.

Characters:
A Maiden, Miss HETTY HOLROYD; The Death, Mr. H. T. GORDON.

1. Orchestral Introduction.
2. Chorus, "Call for Death."
3. Recit. and Aria, "Death Appears," Mr. H. T. GORDON.
4. Chorus, "Youth Rejoicing."
5. "Song of a Maiden," Miss HETTY HOLROYD ('cello obbligato, Mr. Straus).
6. Soli and Chorus, "Prayer."

Leader of Orchestra—Mr. GEORGE HALL.

Accompanists—Mr. J. ASHCROFT EDWARDS and Mr. NICHOLAS GEHDE.

Harp—Mrs. STEPHENSON.

USUAL PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Doors open at 7; Concert 8, terminating at 10.

Orchestral Rehearsal 3 o'clock To-day, Her Majesty's Theatre.

HER MAJESTY'S.

Sole Lessees ... ... Messrs. Woods and Marshall.
Manager ... ... Mr. Alfred Woods.

SUCCESS. SUCCESS.

The House was Packed Last Evening by a large and enthusiastic audience to witness the first performance of the Grand, Mammoth, and Original Dramatical, Pantomimical, Nonsensical, Nautical, Pastoral, Oriental, Comical, Cannibal, Up-to-date Burlesque of Defoe's Mythical, Historical Story,

ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE,

written expressly for this Theatre by BERT ROYLE.

TO-MORROW, THURSDAY (BOXING DAY)
TO-MORROW, THURSDAY (BOXING DAY),
AND EVERY EVENING,
WITH SPECIAL HOLIDAY MATINEES
(See Advt. Below).

ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE
ROBINSON CRUSOE,

interpreted by the following GREAT PANTOMIME COMPANY of unrivalled Comedians and Popular Favourites, including the First Appearance in Pantomime in this city of the Beautiful and Celebrated English Burlesque Actress, Miss

MARIE LUELLA
MARIE LUELLA.

Miss EDITH MOORE, the accomplished young Prima Donna; Miss LILLA WILDE, reappearance after an absence of two years; Mr. HARRY LESTON, Mr. BOBBY WATSON, the Popular Comedians; AMY—THE GOURLAYS—WILLIAM; and the Popular Young Actor, ALFRED WOODS.

Together with Mesdames Lily Everett, Edith Barrow, Ada Page, Edith Stebbings, Violet Desmond, Maud Lita, Ada Montgomerie, Annie Sinclair, Roy Solomon, Edna Elden.

Messrs. Harry Hudson, Charles Woods, J. S. Ryan, Walter Rivers, Frank Foster, Harry Overton, Tommy Cosgrove, E. Carden Wilson, Cecil Calvert, Frank Sceats.

The Famous and Wonderful Trio, LES TINES and MARTINI; THE FAUSTS, Little Florrie Ranger, Baby Tracey, Master Claude Calvert.

A Trained and Powerful Opera Chorus.

HER MAJESTY'S GRAND BALLET.

The following are a few of the most noted features of this year's Pantomime:—The Fairy Forge—The Embarkation of the Moonshine (showing a beautiful view of Merry-ton Harbour)—The Sinbad Ballet (the Children's Ballet)—Crusoe's Departure on his Voyage of Discovery—The Wreck of the Moonshine—The Desert Isle—The Footprint on the Sand—The Cannibal Ballet—Interior of Crusoe's Hut—The Marvellous Talking Goat (as introduced by Professor Friday).

THE TRILBY BALLET
THE TRILBY BALLET,

The Latest Craze.

The Superb Scenery and Beautiful Transformation Scene, "Through Fairy Mazes to the Home of the Naiads," by Kinchela, Ricketts, and assistants. New Music, composed, selected, and arranged by Mr. Frank Eugarde. The Grand Ballets and Incidental Dances invented and arranged by Mr. E. M'Lean. Mechanical Effects by Mr. Arthur Fletcher and assistants.

SCREAMING HARLEQUINADE.

Stage Manager ... Mr. HARRY HODSON.
The entire production under the personal supervision of Mr. ALFRED WOODS.

POPULAR PRICES OF ADMISSION.

Box Plan at Nicholson's (6d extra) for Booking during the Pantomime Season.

Doors open 7.15. Early doors (6d extra), 6.55. Commence 7.45.

J. L. LE BRETON, Acting Manager.

HER MAJESTY'S.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY MATINEES.
TO-MORROW (THURSDAY), DECEMBER 26 (Boxing Day),
and SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28,
of the Gorgeous Christmas Pantomime,
ROBINSON CRUSOE,
when children under 10 will be admitted to all parts of the House (Gallery excepted) for half-price.
Doors open 1.30. Performance 2 p.m.
Box-plan now open.

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BARITONE,
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Pupils can use a studio to practise free of extra fees.
STUDIOS, 40 Elizabeth-street.

MANLY, CORSO HALL, MANLY.
THIODON'S WONDERS OPENED on SATURDAY EVENING to a delighted audience. Every figure in this Exhibition is life-like, and a marvel of mechanical skill, from the ponderous movement of the elephant to the timid action of the hare, which runs to evade the sportsmen and dogs.
DAILY MATINEES DURING THE HOLIDAYS at 3 and 4 o'clock. EVENINGS at 8 o'clock.
The entertainment is interspersed with Vocal and Instrumental Music and Legerdemain.
MILLION PRICES, 1s and 6d.

THIODON'S WONDERS.—The only Public Entertainment at Manly Xmas Holidays.

GO and see ZIMMERMAN and PARSONS at THIODON'S WONDERS, Manly.

THIODON'S MONKEY and stubborn DONKEY are irresistibly funny.

MAMMA, do take me to see THIODON'S wonderful little ANIMALS.

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REMOVAL SALE.
Prior to removing into NEW PREMISES, next Equitable Buildings,
NICHOLSON AND CO.
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The Charge of 10s PER DOZEN for CABINET PHOTOGRAPHS CONTINUES.

Amusements.

TIVOLI THEATRE.

Sole Lessee Mr. Harry Rickards.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!
CHRISTMAS NIGHT,
A GRAND SACRED and CLASSICAL CONCERT,
by the Full Strength of
Mr. HARRY RICKARDS'S TIVOLI MINSTREL and SPECIALTY CO.

PROGRAMME:
PART I.

Overture	By our Tivoli Orchestra
Song (selected)	Mr. Friedman
Ballad—"The Gift"	Miss Morgan
Jubilee Song	Mr. I. Sayles
LITTLE ALMA GRAY.	
Ballad—"The Holy City"	Miss Baker
Song—"Caprice"	Miss Chard
Ballad—"Nazareth"	Mr. Fitzmaurice
Song (Jubilee)	Mr. C. Pope
Ballad—"Dolly Day"	Mr. W. King
Song—"Dada's Baby Boy"	Misses D'Elroy and Lynne
Jubilee Song	Mr. C. Lyndon.

(Interval of 10 minutes.)
PART II.

Overture ... By our Tivoli Orchestra
(Olive) Misses D'ELROY and LYNNE (Mabel. Albert) Messrs. M'KISSON and KEARNS (John.
MISS ALICE LEAMAR.
(Charles) Messrs. POPE and SAYLES (Irving.
Mr. J. W. WINTON.
Miss DAISY CHARD.
Mr. CLARENCE LYNDON.
(John) Messrs. TUDOR and FRIEDMAN (Jake.

PRICES AS USUAL, 2s, 1s, and 6d.
General Manager JOHN C. LEETE.

TO-MORROW,
THURSDAY,
BOXING NIGHT,
A SPECIAL GRAND
HOLIDAY PROGRAMME
will be presented. See To-morrow's Advertisements.
PRICES AS USUAL, 2s, 1s, and 6d.
Box Plan open at the Theatre on Thursday from 10 till 1.

BONNINGTON'S LIVER TONIC
For INDIGESTION, DEBILITY.

TEMPERANCE HALL, Pitt-st.—Chairs, 6d; gallery, 3d; reserved, 1s. Christmas Concert, 20 artists.

TEMP. HALL.—Eva Leete, Belmont Sisters, Auria Sisters, Cleveland, Ruby Clifford, Eva Howard, others.

TEMP. HALL.—Herbert Sherwin, Harry Bysack, Charles King, Wallie Clair, Ch. Rose, Spencer Saillard.

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CHRISTMAS DAY.

THE BEST, THE CHEAPEST, and by far the most amusing and instructive place to go to is the "ZOO."

By far the BEST PLACE for PICNICS is decidedly the "ZOO."

with its well-kept Lawns, Terraces, and Flower Gardens, with its pretty Lake and Weeping Willows, & Aquatic Plants, and Gold Fish.

ALL VISITORS TO SYDNEY should make a point of seeing the ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, and the Society's latest Novelty, the Wonderful "WILD MAN of the WOODS," or the OURANG-UTAN of BORNEO.

Parents should take their Children to the "ZOO" to see the "WILD MAN of the WOODS."

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS are of all places the most delightful place you can take your children to, for in the MENAGERIE they will see

Cages full of LIONS
Cages full of TIGERS and young CUBS
Cages full of PUMAS
ELEPHANTS and CAMELS
BEARS, Hyenas, Jackals, Dingoes, and
all kinds of Animals too numerous to mention.

Ostriches, Emus, Cassowaries, Flamingoes, Swans, Ducks, Coots, Water Hens, Macaws, Parrots and Parrakeets, Eagles and Vultures, and Finches and Song Birds too many to enumerate.

At 3 p.m.
Mr. J. BURROWS, the Elephant Keeper, will put JESSIE and TOBY through their WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE.

At 4 p.m.
the LIONS, TIGERS, LEOPARDS, and PUMAS will be FED, and at 4.30 the PELICANS.

REFRESHMENTS can be obtained at moderate prices at the Refreshment Rooms.

Admission to the Gardens, 6d; Children, 3d.

The Randwick and Coogee Trams stop at the Gates. Fare, 3d; Children, 1d.

RANDWICK, BOXING DAY.—Leger Reserve and Stand, seating accommod. for thousands. Admis., 2s.

CRICKET.—Tooth and Co. Disengaged, or Wicket to Let, Norwood Pk., Dec. 28. W. J. Brooks, Kt. Brewy.

OUR BOY C.C. disengaged with wicket Saturday, without wicket Jan. 1. W. F. Eames, 27 Ross-st., For. L.

NORTH SYDNEY A TEAM Disengaged with North Shore Oval, SATURDAY. J. Shepherd, North Sydney.

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Christmas Stories, Beautiful Illustrations, and Magnificent Coloured Supplement.
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The most popular organisation that has ever Toured the Colonies.

8th YEAR. POLLARD'S LILLIPUTIAN OPERA COMPANY. 8th YEAR.

BOXING NIGHT, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26.

Production on a scale of Great Completeness and Magnificence of Audran's Charming Comic Opera,

"As if You Didn't Know." { OLIVETTE OLIVETTE OLIVETTE } Bob up Serenely.

NEW WARDROBE, SCENERY, and EFFECTS.

Full Opera Orchestra under the Baton of Mr. H. T. HARRISON.

The opera produced under the sole direction of Mr. TOM POLLARD, and by arrangement with Messrs. WILLIAMSON and MUSGROVE.

Box Plan the Theatre on Boxing Day.
Prices—Dress Circle and Reserved Stalls, 4s; Stalls, 3s; Family Circle, 2s; Gallery, 1s.
FRED. W. DUVAL, Business Manager.

THE NEW CYCLORAMA,
JERUSALEM.
GEORGE-STREET, OPPOSITE RAILWAY STATION.

OPEN THIS (CHRISTMAS) DAY, from 2.30 to 5 and 7 to 10 p.m.

LECTURES by Mr. B. A. REEVE,
with Full Musical Accompaniments, at 3 and 8 p.m., and Explanations at intervals.

BEAUTIFUL LIME-LIGHT EFFECTS.
THE STAR of BETHLEHEM.
Shadow of the Cross and Visions of Angels.
Calvary—Impressively Realistic.
THUNDER, LIGHTNING, and STORM.
Beautiful Vocal and Instrumental Music during Lectures and intervals.

"Adeste Fideles" ... Christmas Hymn
QUARTET.
"Star of Bethlehem" ... S. Adams
Mr. BERNARD M'CAULEY.
"Jerusalem" (St. Paul) ... Mendelssohn
Miss VALERIE ELLESMERE.
"Ave Maria" ... Gounod
Miss LENNARD.
"To Thee, Great Lord" (Mosè in Egitto) ... Rossini
QUARTETTE.
"The Mighty Deep" ... Jude
Mr. ALEX NEEDHAM.
"Sainted Mother" ... Wallace
Misses LENNARD and V. ELLESMERE.
"The Pilgrim" ... S. Adams
Mr. BERNARD M'CAULEY.

"Alas, Those Chimes" (Maritana) Wallace; "Angelus" trio, (Maritana); "Sweet and Low" quartette, (Barnaby); "Dawn of Day" (S. Reay); "Good Night" (Seymour Smith), and other items.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR BOXING DAY.
(See Press.)

SPORT and Prizes for Children on the Lawn.

ADMISSION, 1s. CHILDREN, 6d.

SYDNEY MUSIC HALL,
608, 610, 612 GEORGE-STREET
(Lawler's Buildings, Brickfield-hill).
Proprietor: John Lawler. Manager: W. P. Morrison.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

This Hall is CLOSED TO-DAY. The proprietor, staff, and company have gone to the Blue Mountains to assist the "New Curate" in holding a prayer meeting at "Florrie's Glen." 'Twill be held in the open air, and will be supported by the company in their full strength and EACH ONE STRONG.

Although admission is free the plate will religiously be SHOVED UNDER YOUR NOSE, and a collection taken up in aid of the Tysons, Coopers, and other such benighted landowners as are not able to "Part up" for REID'S Land and Income Tax.

A Special Prayer will be offered, as about the only thing the people of N.S.W. can at present offer, for the Lord to deliver us of earthquakes, famines, "£300 a year Parliamentary jokers of the do-nothing prorogation type," and other LIKE calamities.

And an extraordinary prayer will be submitted, with full limelight effect, as a thanksgiving to all good people who never visit Music Halls, Theatres, or places of amusement, whereat they can laugh and be merry.

Dead-heads will be present in abundance, admission being free.

SINNERS, HOWEVER, ARE EXPECTED TO TURN UP on "BOXING NIGHT," and nightly thereafter, to learn something of the prayer at "Florrie's Glen." At the whole "Kaboosh" will be found to tell the tale at 8 o'clock, when the combined roosters and roosteresses will be perched and crowing, every other decent sinner in the community is expected to be present to also flap his or her wings and crow.

The Curtain rises TO-MORROW NIGHT at 8 prompt. Doors open at 7.

THE PANTOMIME DE VARIETY.
Posters everywhere. Programmes at Hall.
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JENOLAN CAVES.—Round Trip, rail, accom., buggies, 60s. Davis, Tourist Agency, 108 Pitt-st., op. G.P.O.

HAROLD BERESFORD, Scientific Palmist, 20 Royal Arcade.

(For continuation of Amusement Advertisements see page 6.)

"INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM."

ADDRESS BY MR. BAYARD.

The Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, United States Ambassador, on 8th November, delivered an address entitled "Individual Freedom, the Germ of National Progress and Permanence," before the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution.

Mr. Bayard (reports the London *Daily Chronicle*) said that at no stage of history was it more important to call to mind the great principle that government was a means, not an end, and was instituted to maintain those general liberties which are essential for human happiness and progress. There was a deep movement of unrest in the breasts of men, and the forces of society moved in strong and varied currents—the concentrated weight of armed repression and the upheavals of popular discontent were alike plainly discernible. The forces of productive industry were never so great, and the burdens upon their products were never so heavy. Combination and consolidation to resist injustice, and competition for success, had gradually arrayed capital and labour in opposite camps, in which the power of each was separately, and too often adversely, organised, and serious conflicts had occurred, and conflicts more serious were impending, which threatened disaster to that tranquillity and good order of the State which were essential not only for its progress, but for the maintenance of the civilisation to which the world has attained. In this threatened conflict and confusion of the forces of society, and seeking the origin of that free government which is essential for happiness and progress, and how it shall be perpetuated, he asked, What is its germ? What is the seed from which human liberty springs, and which must never be overlooked, but renewed, replanted, and protected as the generations of men pass away and their successors fill their places? When he contemplated the autocratic power which was exercised in some countries, and beheld the organised and associated powers of wealth and numbers welded in such an overwhelming phalanx in others, he asked, Where is the safety and personal freedom of the individual? How is it to be guarded and secured? For the freedom of its individual members was the essential basis of the freedom of the State. The movement of the day, sometimes open, sometimes concealed in the robes of philanthropy and paternalism, but more often discernible in politics purely selfish, was towards State Socialism, as an opposing force of Autocracy. But either was despotism, and fatal to that individual freedom of man's mind and soul which was the instrumentality by which the world, under the very laws of its origin and progress, had been raised from brutality and barbarism to its present standard of civilisation. Was there not cause to fear lest between the upper and the nether millstones of the twin despotisms, military absolutism and socialistic tyranny, the freedom of the individual might be ground to death? What could prevent this but insistance upon a distribution of the powers of government into independent departments, and a careful restriction of those powers to public uses only? By the recognition of the individual as the essential unit of society, the voluntary principle became the basis of governmental action. Abandon the man and disregard his moral nature—silence the voice of his conscience, as it alternately pleaded and threatened, and substitute the rule of overpowering numbers, and that mysterious and undefined entity "Collectivism" in which wisdom was supposed to be gathered, or the single will of an autocrat—and the principle of consolidated and coercive power would necessarily be substituted. Truth had been called the daughter of Time, and assuredly the history of the nineteen centuries which had passed since the light of the Christian moral order had been shed upon the world, disclosed the indubitable fact that every discovery under which improvement in human relations had been accomplished, and by which the civilisation of mankind had progressed, had been brought into the world's use through the channel of an individual mind, and in no instance by the associated power of mankind. We were now witnessing the decline and fall of empires once mighty in their material force, but now inert, decrepit, devoid of the seminal principle of growth or the sustenance of a moral order. And it was plainly apparent that these were the necessary and logical consequences of despotic government, the destruction of personal freedom, the enfeeblement of the moral fibre, the paralysis of individual, intellectual, and moral growth. Mr. Bayard continued by referring to the rapid growth and development of the United States, which he described as the most remarkable page in the history of civilised mankind. This marvellous progress could only be adequately accounted for by the freedom permitted to the units of that population, to each individual citizen, without surrender of conscience, to enjoy the admitted right to accomplish his own manhood, to be fully himself. The mainsprings of these exertions were indefatigable persistence, sincere conviction, enthusiasm, and hope, which were all, and were only, individual qualities and characteristics of the social unit, the free man. And with these subtracted, and the sense of personal responsibility disregarded, no substitute could be found. Therefore, he earnestly invoked opposition to State Socialism in all its forms, and sounded a note of warning against the many propositions of political interference and State management under the garb of philanthropic aid or paternalism, as they were fraught with danger to the principle of individual freedom. In his own country he had witnessed the insatiable growth of that form of State Socialism styled "protection," which he believed had done more to foster class legislation and create inequality of fortune, to corrupt public life, to banish men of independent mind and character from the public councils, to lower the tone of national representation, blunt public conscience, create false standards in the popular mind, to familiarise it with reliance upon State aid and guardianship in private affairs, divorce ethics from politics, and place politics upon the low level of a mercenary scramble, than any other single cause. Step by step, and largely owing to the confusion of civil strife, it had succeeded in obtaining control of the sovereign power of taxation, never hesitating at any alliance or the resort to any combination that promised to assist its purpose of perverting public taxation from its only true justification and function, of creating revenue for the support of the government of the whole people, into an engine for the selfish and private profit of allied beneficiaries and combinations, called "trusts." Under its dictation individual enterprise and independence had been oppressed, and the energy of discovery and invention debilitated and discouraged. It was incorrect to speak of protection as a national policy, for that it could never be. The value of "protective" taxation to its beneficiaries consisted in its inequality, for without discrimination in favour of someone there was no advantage to anyone. But the enfeeblement of individual energies and the impairment of manly self-reliance were necessarily involved, and the belief in the mysterious powers of the State, and a reliance upon them to take the place of individual exertion, fostered the growth of State Socialism, and personal liberty ceased to be the great end of government. Who would not admit that the individual discoveries and labours of such men as Caxton, Watt, Arkwright, Stephenson, Nasmyth, Wedgwood, Bessemer, Whitworth and Whitney, Ericsson, Bell, or Edison, had been productive of infinitely greater, steady, happy, prosperous, and beneficial industry and employment, giving comfort and occupation to countless members of the human race, and an upward impetus to the cause of humanity and civilisation far beyond all that statutes and societies for the avowed protection of labour could ever pretend to accomplish? The trend of modern invention towards equalising human opportunity for intellectual advance was marvellous. Look for an instant at some of the highest triumphs of invention—not merely the saving of exhausting, cheerless labour, not merely rest for the toil-worn body, but refreshment and delight to the minds and souls of men. Evolution, not revolution, was the quiet, masterful force now leading the progress of civilisation, and the personal conscience and the "living soul" of the free individual were essential to enable mankind to conform to the changes which are inevitable in its onward journey. (Cheers.)

THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY.

Although there may be probably no immediate prospect of Government interference in such a matter as the state of the atmosphere in the underground railway, still it is a subject for congratulation (says the *British Medical Journal*) that this important question should have once more been raised and attention directed to it in Parliament. Everybody is aware of the highly-irritating nature of the atmosphere through the presence of sulphurous acid, but probably of a still more devitalising character are the other products of combustion which are freely discharged into the limited space which the tunnel afford. The daily inhalation of such an exhausted atmosphere cannot fail to produce a deleterious effect on the thousands of city men who daily so change the vitiated air of an office for a more or less prolonged sojourn in this subterranean prison. With our present knowledge of the manner in which disease is warded off by the healthy system, we should be more than ever alive to the necessity of avoiding all conditions which tend to depress vitality, and we cannot conceive anything more calculated to bring about this result than the regular submission to a daily journey in the underground railway. There is, however, no doubt that all those who can eschew this means of locomotion, selecting by preference the less comfortable and more leisurely penny 'bus. Putting the matter on a commercial basis only, we think that underground railway companies should realise by this time that the omnibus companies are paying their substantial dividends at their expense, mainly in consequence of the repulsive and unwholesome atmosphere which they still, after so many years' experience, inflict upon their patrons. Improvements have from time to time been made, and notably Baker-street Station has been converted from a sulphurous den into a commodious and comparatively airy space, but much yet remains to be done. Whether additional ventilation will remove the evil or whether a different source of motive power must be substituted for that at present in use we know not; but the general public have a right to demand that the present state of affairs should not be permitted to continue, and it remains with those to take such united steps as may put an end to what can only be regarded as a disgrace to the wealthiest city of the world.

At the assizes at Prenzlau, in Germany, on the 5th November, Hermann Springstein, a local shopkeeper, and his sister, a widow named Bock, were convicted of the murder, by poisoning, of the male prisoner's wife in March of this year, and sentenced to death. The prisoners were also accused of the murder by poisoning of six other persons, including their mother and father and Mrs. Bock's husband and son, between 1886 and 1892. The lives of the male prisoner's wife and brother-in-law had been insured.

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ERRORS OF DIET.
Sydney Smith says:—The longer I live the more I am convinced that the apothecary is of more importance than Seneca, and that half the unhappiness of the world proceeds from little stoppages, from a duct choked up, from food pressing in the wrong place, from a vexed duodenum, or an agitated pylorus.
The deception as practised upon human creatures is curious and entertaining. My friend sups late, he eats some strong soup, then a lobster, then some tart, and he dilutes these esculent varieties with wine. The next day I call upon him. He is going to sell his house in London and to retire into the country. He is alarmed for his eldest daughter's health. His expenses are hourly increasing, and nothing but a timely retreat can save him from ruin.
All this is lobster; and when over-excited nature has had time to manage this testaceous encumbrance, the daughter recovers, the finances are in good order, and every rural idea effectually excluded from the mind.
In the same manner old friendships are destroyed by toasted cheese, and hard salt meat has led to suicide. Unpleasant feelings of the body produce correspondent sensations in the mind, and a great sense of wretchedness is caused by a morsel of indigestible and misguided food. Is it not strange that thousands will go on through life with dyspeptic troubles when we have a simple and safe remedy in
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All that is necessary is a little ATTENTION TO DIET and perseverance in these celebrated Pills to completely CORRECT ALL THESE TROUBLES.
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TO THOSE WHO CANNOT PAY CASH DOWN OUR TERMS ARE:—
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EVERY REQUISITE KEPT IN STOCK FOR HOUSEKEEPING.

THE BULL-FIGHTING QUESTION IN FRANCE.

(From a Paris Correspondent of the St. James's Gazette.)

People living in England can have no notion what a burning question the bull-fighting one has become in France. Nothing has occurred in these days to show with equal force that the unity of the modern French was the result of political accidents as the complete divergence of views between Northerners and Southerners on this subject. It has brought into new relief the ancient line of demarcation between the *langue d'oïl* and the *langue d'oc*—a line that expressed and still expresses a vast deal more than a mere difference of popular dialect. The difference is, as it was in the Middle Ages, an exterior sign of deeply engraved racial distinctions. In about one-third of France of to-day a language is commonly spoken—varying according to districts, but essentially the same—which is as much a foreign tongue to the Parisian as is Italian or Spanish. He speaks of it contemptuously as *patois*. Now all these millions of *patois*-speaking French people are more or less prejudiced against "Messieurs les Parisiens," to whom they can apply on occasion some extremely picturesque expressions of contempt. The nearer one draws to the Pyrenees or to the Mediterranean the more forcibly is one impressed by the cat-and-dog kind of affection that exists between the Southerners and the Parisians, with whom are often classed all the people in the northern half of France.

The Meridionals wax furious at the thought that the cold-blooded Northerners should lay down the law to them on the subject of their amusements, and it is this feeling more even than their taste for sanguinary sports which explains the extraordinary fervour with which bull-fighting, with all its Spanish cruelty, has lately been practised in the Southern departments. Their cry is "decentralisation." They have been accused of separatist feelings but they will not admit that there is any truth in this impeachment. They believe themselves to be the best people in France, but it is just for this reason that they object to have "Messieurs les Parisiens" on their backs. For more than 10 years there has been a standing quarrel between the Central Government and the Southern French on the bull-fighting question, but it is a quarrel which Cabinet Ministers have carried on with many a wink and with the finger placed significantly against the side of the nose. They have been playing at the same time to two galleries completely hostile to one another, and trying to keep on good terms with both. Now this is a game that puts too severe a strain upon the histrionic talent even of French statesmen. It cannot be carried on indefinitely without bringing authority into utter contempt. Now this is just what has happened in the south of France. In consequence of some explosion of newspaper indignation in Paris orders have been given from time to time by a Minister of the Interior to the southern prefects to see that no more bulls were put to death or horses disembowelled for the amusement of holiday crowds at Nimes and other towns that have obtained a sanguinary notoriety of late years by their tauromachic revels. But no sooner has the indignation calmed down in the north than the restrictions placed upon the frolics of the lively Southerners have been relaxed, and the former scenes of bloodshed have been repeated. It need hardly be stated that this Ministerial game of see-saw has been entirely regulated by electoral considerations. The Government is well aware that a very large number of these fervid Southerners believe that the best régime is that which allows them the largest measure of independence, and that it matters little whether there is a King or a President at Paris, so that they may be left to amuse themselves after their fashion. The popular demonstrations at Nimes and elsewhere some months since caused the Government to modify once more its attitude—which for a little while seemed very resolute. It may be remembered that even Mistral, the gentle nineteenth-century troubadour, raised his voice—one that has great influence in all the country of the Rhone below Orange—against the tyrannical interference of the Government with the pastimes of his dear Provençaux. And yet he who sang of "Mireille" might with better figure have denounced Spanish bull-fighting as a foreign importation and a brutalising one, and have entered an eloquent plea for the old Provençal game of snatching the rosette from the head of the fierce little Camargue bull—a sport that fosters manly qualities without cruelty, but which is in danger of passing away.

At no period has Spanish bull-fighting been carried on in France over so wide an area and with such fervour as during the present summer. At no other time has the contempt of the Southerners for the law been marked with such triumphant insolence. The Spanish bull-fighters have trooped across the Pyrenees to entertain the people at Nimes, Bordeaux, Bayonne, Dax, and other places. For infringing the Loi Grammont, which is supposed to protect domestic animals (not others) they are fined a franc each time they run a sword in public between a bull's shoulder blades. What is much more inconvenient to them, they are "conducted" across the frontier; but they take home plenty of money and fresh renown as compensation. Their loss is not felt in France; for in Spain the supply of bull-fighters is unlimited. The official farce was grotesquely emphasised the other day at Dax, in the Landes, where 17 horses—not to speak of bulls—were slaughtered. The local police commissary was doing his duty by watching the proceedings in the passage separating the spectators from the arena. An infuriated bull unexpectedly leapt the partition, and lifting the representative of authority on high, sent him through the air at a rate of speed greatly superior to that at which French officials usually travel. This incident has been cited as a proof that bulls enjoy the fun of the fight in the arena, and that nothing annoys them so much as police interference. This argument, however, does not appear to have had much weight in the recent councils of the Government, for the Minister of the Interior has announced his intention to prohibit all bull-fighting in the departments of the Gard, the Landes, and the Basses-Pyrénées. The Gironde has been excepted, perhaps as a delicate attention to the Lord Mayor of London, for it is quite possible that the hospitable Bordelais may be contemplating a bull-fight among other entertainments in his honour. It will be interesting to watch the effect of the latest Ministerial edict upon the vivacious inhabitants of the departments already named.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—The cablegram in to-day's *Herald* that "the professors of Harvard University have forwarded a petition to Congress on behalf of the maintenance of peace" is in harmony both with the historical connection of this university with Great Britain and with the liberal and noble nature of the culture it imparts. Its history and work of instruction furnish, in fact, some typical instances in favour of unity between the people of the United States and Great Britain. Massachusetts, the State in which the university is located, is one of the original colonies founded by the British emigrants. The university is not only the most distinguished, but also the oldest in the United States. It was founded as early as the reign of the Stuarts, viz., in 1636, at a place which was purposely called Cambridge, "in recognition of the English university, where many of the colonists had been educated." The name Harvard is that of a Nonconforming clergyman of England, who handsomely endowed the institution. During recent years a considerable sum of money was left to the university by a Mr. G. Bemis "for the support of a professor of international law, who should be a jurist who had been in public life or the diplomatic service, or who, at least, had lived abroad, and so had had opportunity to view his country from without. He is to be not merely a professor of the science, but a practical co-operator in the work of advancing knowledge and goodwill among nations and Governments." The petition from this university is certainly noteworthy. I am, &c.,

Sydney, Dec. 24. A. J. B.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s 9d. Beware of worthless imitations.—[ADVT.]

In Preserving Fruits, &c., Save Labour, Time, and Sugar by using Anti-Fermentine. To be had of all Storekeepers.—[ADVT.]

LONDON PRODUCE MARKET.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Nov. 15.

The advantage of cold stores to the dealer in perishable produce is self-evident. No proof of their value is, therefore, necessary. These stores are being provided in increasing numbers all over Great Britain, and not a few are substantial, conveniently situated, and of considerable capacity. Those who erected these stores had their eye upon produce coming from outside sources, and it had seemed as if they were to be devoted to the uses of importers of provisions only. For a long time prejudice against frozen meats and other such commodities hindered suppliers of home products from recognising that "two birds may be killed with one and the same stone." Wide-awake buyers patriotically decline to sell articles frozen at the antipodes, but are going the "whole hog" for freezing those grown on their native soil. Cold stores are becoming very popular, and slumps in the produce markets are godsends to their owners and men who imitate the early bird. Excessive deliveries of all sorts force the unfortunate wholesalers to tear their hair off in handfulls and lament; sellers must sacrifice or see their goods spoil. It's a pity to throw these things away for a song, so the buyer will take them at a price. The bewildered consignor has no alternative, and so accepts what he can get.

The action of dealers hinted at above—who by the way are careful to stock only what will pay to hold—is bound to affect the values of imported colonial produce materially, and the advantage which naturally has been forecasted from the erection of cold stores at so many centres may not be the unmixed blessing anticipated in Australia. Indeed, it could scarcely be expected that the opportunities they are seen to afford the shrewd and large buyers would not be seized. They are being seized, and as time goes on, and the leverage these stores afford is realised more widely, we shall see them springing up all over the country. In every English city, small town, and even in villages, the inhabitants are being unconsciously educated to believe storing in cold rooms is a good thing, or to disbelieve that it injures articles of food, such as meat, poultry, and butter. Consumers recognise little or no difference in the external appearance of the Yankee chilled meat when compared with English their butcher has brought up from his cold cellar. But all note a very marked contrast when colonial frozen joints which have been hanging awhile in the same shops are offered for inspection. The appreciation of these cold stores by the dealers in home-grown produce is too important a matter to be overlooked by the colonial producers. They have given the "tip" to thick-headed folks who, Rip-Van-Winkle-like, have been fast asleep years and years. The farmer is rousing up, and will not be the same quiet, all-enduring, apathetic party he has been, and will have to be taken more into account. Landlords are rousing as well, and two heads are put together with the usual results. From perusal of the reports of agricultural meetings during the present year the conclusion is forced upon our minds that farmers in England are feeling their way towards broad daylight. The younger men are better educated, and read newspapers, and know well what competitors are doing and mean to try and do; and belong to the same race that held Chitral the other day, and have made Australia. These men attend technical classes, and a short time back 145 passed the Yorkshire College stiff examination, and 66 with honours. In Yorkshire alone 509 such students have taken examination this year, 426 having attended the full course of scientific and practical instruction; and as these cling tenaciously to the homeland, their latent power, resource, courage, resolution, and intelligence, which have carried their forefathers through apparently insurmountable difficulties, will have to be dealt with. And hence the fight for the market for produce promises to be far severer than enthusiasts have foreseen. We find that cold stores are discovered to meet a long-felt want for the home producers' benefit, and the consumers make no objection whatever to the native products coming from such stores—though multitudes do, and foolishly, to colonial frozen anything. It would half-revolutionise the home markets if the value and suitability of cold storage for sound commercial purposes, and as the road to salvation dawned upon the English farmers' mind. Provision dealers have struck a reef promising gold, and can scarcely prevent others learning where it is, and cold stores and their utilisation cannot be preserved for the sole service of colonial producers, which it is well to bear in mind.

The importation of live stock from over sea has begun to arouse criticism of a severe character. The secretary of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in a forcible letter to the *Times* describes it as "an inhuman enterprise," and gives reasons for his belief. In rushes an exporters' friend, who admits "great cruelty and neglect" on their part, but apologises as the gentle boy did who hurt flies with a pin. When the shippers and the cattle have gained sufficient experience, it will be more agreeable for the animals and their owners. And he protests strongly against the suggested "suppression of the trade."

The total shipments for 10 months of live stock and dead meat, just published by the Board of Trade, are:—

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
U.S.A.	225,684	367,554	191
Canada	83,791	142,809	...
Argentine	31,263	271,839	...
Iceland	...	54,643	...
Various	2,776	19,371	130
	343,514	856,176	321
Value	£5,972,908	£1,434,525	£688

Neither in the provinces nor in London during the past fortnight have cattle sold satisfactorily, but with colder weather and increased demand for prime, improvement may be expected. Sheep have done pretty well outside London. The Maori and Maori King stock are duly landed, and the verdict from Deptford is:—"Quite as unsuitable a consignment as it was possible to supply." All came to an overloaded market. Twenty inferior sold at £6 per head; fleshy cows, £9 10s apiece; and a few bullocks, £12 10s to £15 15s. State cattle average £18 10s. Prices in New York, latest cabled:—Oxen, 4d to 4½d lb.; sheep, 1½d to 1¾d lb. Tendency upwards. Freight, 25s per head (of cattle). Montreal sheep quoted 3d to 3½d lb. Frozen meat, &c., imported in October:—

From	Beef.	Mutton.	Pork.
	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
U.S.A.	137,720	not given	not given
Australasia	not given	110,403	...
Argentine	not given	68,730	...
Holland	none	29,364	30,217
Belgium	none	...	3,005
Other countries ...	65,180	2,055	...

Trade has been affected by the character of the weather which has not been seasonable, but close and muggy, and made buyers careful. Stocks piled up, and there has been more stale and inferior on hand than usual. But since the 11th weather has grown colder and consumers hungrier. Prices are a shade better in consequence:—

Beef.—Per 8lb: Scotch shortsides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; English, prime, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; American (killed here), 1s 10d to 3s 8d (Liverpool); American (killed Deptford), 2s 8d to 3s 2d; American refrigerated hinds, 3s 2 to 3s 8d; American fores, 1s 8d to 2s; Australian hinds, 2s; Australian fores, 1s 8d.

Mutton: Scotch, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; English, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; American, 3s to 3s 4d (killed here); Dutch, 3s to 3s 8d; River Plate, 2s to 3s 4d (killed here); New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Australian, 1s 10d to 2s; New Zealand lamb, 3s to 5s 2d.

The Timaru has at last reached Manchester, and found a by no means active demand.

Butter two weeks ago had gone up like a rocket. Re-perusing our forecast it is curious to note how strangely and correctly it hits off the "what has happened" since. But not even the wildest speculator believed that within four days of our penning the aforesaid Danish butter would fall 13s 6d per cwt.; but it did, and to-day is depressed, and agents will sell at 108s, 112s their choice, and their fine at 100s, 104s. French is merely flat at 100s to 110s for best, and Dutch dairy 100s to 104s. Much desirable has gone into cold stores, and shopkeepers go on charging the public top prices. Suffering tradesmen are having a high old time, and it is all through "that blessed drought in Australia." Danish and Canadian are selling in Liverpool at 115s, 120s; but, oddly, no Australian is offering there at all. Why not, may well be asked. The only answer which occurs is, agents in London are not, as a rule, efficiently represented in our large provincial towns, and hence when overstocked are practically at the mercy of buyers near their own doors. The explanation of good men is, they cannot afford to pay sub-agents' commissions. Their poverty is the shippers' loss. Should it be true that drought in the colonies will lead to a decided curtailment of shipments, the sooner this information is cabled the better for all concerned.

Leather.—The situation is rather mixed, but it looks as if the tanner will not be hurt. The Antwerp hide market had practically collapsed a week or more ago, and that made hides cheaper for the manufacturer, who was fearing the American competition and slackness of the season would render him poor help, and leather tumbled round and down. Then cables reported the Leather Trust in America were shutting up 100 tanneries for 60 days, which covers their slack period, and during these days they may pick up sundry bargains in the hide line. But dealers here fight shy of the Yankee philanthropists invariably, and understood that the game was dumping surplus stocks of sides over this side as soon as the bait was swallowed. We can find no one with a disposition to bite. The hide market droops, and as the grade coming at the present time are mostly below par, we cannot imagine the demand growing active for any but prime, which are inquired for. Sole leather has been quiet for the past month, and sellers are now willing to make prices. English goods are easier to part with than foreign of all kinds. Generally trade is of hand-to-mouth character. American leather is neglected, and Australian moves by knocking off figures only. A further cable has just come from Boston which advises that a large firm with many Western tanneries closes them for a term, and the Leather Trust mean to extend the holiday given their workmen. Upon top of all this, we note exports from the States week by week show a steady increase, and total value of leather shipped from 1st January to 15th October:—1894, 4,084,046dol.; 1895, 6,646,874dol. Nearly also twice as much last week as the week before. It need not amaze any if we end by saying the outlook is decidedly gloomy and foggy for leather.

Tallow.—Deliveries in 1894 were declared to be unprecedented. During 10 months of this year 2000 more tons have been received or are expected than for 12 months of 1894. There is nevertheless rather more spirit in the market, and some c.i.f purchases have been effected in the region of 21s. And at to-day's sale 1000 casks were sold, 1771 offered, but sellers had to take 3d less than last week:—

Mutton.—Fine, 23s 9d to 24s; fair to good, 23s to 23s 3d; common to middling, 22s to 22s 6d; low and inferior, 20s 6d to 21s 6d.

Beef.—Fine, 23s to 24s; fair to good, 21s 6d to 22s; common to middling, 21s to 21s 6d; low and inferior, 20s to 21s 6d.

Timber.—A better demand for jarrah is encouraging to report. More demand than supply, and buyers are eager for deliveries. Kauri pine selling freely where sizes are suitable.

THE FRENCH CABINET.

A RADICAL MINISTRY.

The Bourgeois Cabinet (says the Paris correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph*) is the most Radical Ministry that has as yet been formed. It will need the support of the Socialist element in the Chamber, and already the hope is expressed by Republican politicians of less advanced views that its acts, without being as dangerous as they have a right to apprehend, will clearly demonstrate to the country the risks of the programme which it will endeavour to carry out. As for the Socialists, some are complaining that they have not a single representative in the Cabinet, though they played so leading a part in the overthrow of the Ribot Ministry; and as regards the opinion of the Reactionaries, it goes without saying that they are joyfully predicting that the Republic will suffer from this change of Government. This is not a very promising beginning, though a new Cabinet has always to undergo a vast amount of criticism. Then in the army and the navy, where Civil Ministers are invariably unpopular, a strong feeling exists against the nominations of M. Cavaignac and M. Lockroy, both of whom have urgently pressed for so-called reforms in each department. The Higher Council of the army looks with absolute horror on M. Cavaignac's projects, and admirals are aghast at the appointment of M. Lockroy, who has denounced, with as much vehemence as M. Clémenceau has done, the extravagance which, as both maintain, prevails in the navy. Nor do steady-going politicians who take an enlightened interest in foreign affairs augur much from the fact that M. Léon Bourgeois has yielded to the noisy colonial group, and has decided on "revising," in the direction of absolute annexation, the treaty recently concluded with the Queen of Madagascar. The refusal of M. Hanotaux to retain his portfolio, and the various reasons which he assigned in explanation of this step, have increased these misgivings. Under all these circumstances he would be a bold prophet who should predict for the new Cabinet a long lease of life.

Few of the Ministers, however, are untried men. On the contrary the majority have been in office and have given proof of talent and energy. M. Léon Bourgeois, who combines the Ministry of the Interior with the Presidency of the Council, was Under-Secretary of State in that department under M. Floquet, was Minister of Public Instruction in the Cabinets of M. de Freycinet and M. Loubet, and Minister of Justice in M. Ribot's combination, formed in the beginning of 1893. Since that date he has been an active member of the Chamber. Before assuming office he had held the posts of Sub-Prefect and Prefect, and he entered Parliament in 1888 as Deputy for the Marne, a seat that he has ever since retained. His rise, therefore, has been rapid, and he can look forward to a long political career. M. Léon Bourgeois is a young President of the Council, as he is not more than 44 years of age. M. Ricard, the Minister of Justice, held that post in the Loubet Cabinet in 1892, and it was he who started the Panama prosecutions. Later on, in the Ribot Ministry, he was replaced by M. Léon Bourgeois. M. Ricard has been much attacked by some, and has been loudly extolled by others as a sort of Aristides. He is the victim of an amusing sobriquet, borrowed from the name of a well-known Tunisian beauty. M. Cavaignac has held office as Under-Secretary of State for War and as Minister of Marine. The son of the celebrated general of '48, it was he who, when a mere youth, declined to receive a prize from the hands of the Prince Imperial. He has been rather a flighty politician, and his recent attitude as Rapporteur of the Army Estimates has evoked much criticism. M. Lockroy, his colleague in the Naval Department, was Minister of Commerce with M. de Freycinet in 1885, and with M. Goblet in the following year, when he organised the last Exhibition, and Minister of Public Instruction in M. Floquet's Cabinet. He is a staunch Radical, and was long on intimate terms with Victor Hugo, of whose grandchildren he is the stepfather. M. Berthelot, Minister of Public Instruction, held that office in the Goblet Cabinet in 1886. He is Secretary of the Academy of Medicine, and a life Senator. M. Guyot-Dessaigne, Minister of Public Works, was for a few days Minister of Justice in M. Floquet's combination in 1889. He was a magistrate during the Empire. M. Viger, Minister of Agriculture, has already been a popular head of that department in four Cabinets. M. Doumer, Minister of Finance, takes office for the first time. Thirty-eight years of age, he has already made his mark as a hardworking and conscientious Deputy. M. Mésureur, Minister of Commerce, has been President of the Municipal Council. He has devoted considerable attention to labour questions. M. Combes, Minister of the Colonies, is a member of the Senate, and has brought out works on philosophy and history. He has been nominated instead of M. Leveillé, who declined to join the Cabinet at the eleventh hour.

THE BUTTER TRADE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—As a dairy farmer of New South Wales allow me through your columns to draw the attention of all interested in this industry to the fact that right through the past winter and even to the present time very large quantities of butter have been placed upon the Sydney market from Melbourne. Without taking up your space by a long letter, I will simply ask, "Is this butter sent by Melbourne business men as a legitimate speculation or is it purchased by agents or middlemen and put into direct competition with our own commodity?" I hope some dairy farmer behind the scenes may be able to enlighten us. I am, &c.,

DAIRY FARMER.

December 21.

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A SPOTLESS COMPLEXION.—Sulpholine Lotion clears off all imperfections in a few days—Spots, Blemishes, Irritating Redness, Uncomfortable Skin Disfigurements. Shilling bottles.—[ADVT.]

REORGANISATION OF THE ENGLISH WAR OFFICE.

(Spectator, November 2.)

The Order in Council laying down the scheme under which the Army and the War Department are to be reorganised will, it is rumoured, be published in the course of the next few days. It is greatly to be feared that the fatal blunder hinted at in Mr. Balfour's speech in Parliament is to be persisted in, and that we are not to have a military head of the Army who, though completely subordinate to the Secretary of State, shall be (subject to that subordination), within his department and the Army, as supreme as the civilian head of a great public office is supreme in his own office. What we want at the War Office is a permanent soldier who is the official *alter ego* of the Cabinet Minister, and responsible to him for the whole of the War Department, and for taking and spreading the Minister's and the Cabinet's orders through the army. Let it not be supposed for a moment that this supremacy in official and technical matters need in the very least impair the control or the ultimate responsibility of the Secretary of State for War. He and his colleagues in the Cabinet must, of course, direct the policy of the Army, and of the War Office in the last resort. But before that policy is adopted the Secretary of State ought to be able to take the advice not of a board, or of three or four independent heads of departments, but of a great officer responsible for the Army as a whole. To put the matter in a tabular form, what we want to see at the War Office is the following arrangement:—

SECRETARY OF STATE.
|
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.
|
Adjt.-General. Qrmr.-General. Director of Artillery. Inspector-Gen. of Fortifications.

Here all the great departmental officers are responsible to the Commander-in-Chief, and unity is secured in and through him. We do not wish to dwell upon these particular subdivisions as essential. They may, or may not, be the best classification. What we do wish to insist upon is that before any definite step is taken there shall be some soldier who will advise upon it from the point of view of the Army as a whole, and not merely from that of an isolated department. Surely this is the reasonable plan, and the plan which would be preferred by a Secretary of State who wished to carry out his will in the best possible way. Unfortunately, it appears that this is not the arrangement which we are going to have, but one represented by the following diagram, which we reproduce from the able analysis of Mr. Balfour's and Lord Lansdown's speeches unfolding the new scheme that appeared in the *Times* 10 days ago. Under the new plan, this is the arrangement which will prevail:—

SECRETARY OF STATE.
|
Com.-in-Chief. Adjt.-General. Qrmr.-General. Director of Artillery. Inspector-Gen. of Fortifications.

Here the great departmental officers are directly responsible to the Cabinet Minister, and therefore there is no nexus between them and the Commander-in-Chief, and therefore, again, there is no military unity and no official responsibility,—responsibility for technical affairs, that is. In other words, there is confusion and muddle, instead of unity and order. The scheme at its best in fact makes the so-called Commander-in-Chief nothing but *primus inter pares* at the War Office. The Secretary of State may agree with the Director of Artillery to cut off a dozen batteries, and the Commander-in-Chief will have neither knowledge of, nor responsibility for, the matter.

Contrast these schemes for a moment and see the result. Under the first plan, when the Secretary of State has drafted a proposal in regard to the Army which involves a new departure, what will be the procedure? He will go to the Commander-in-Chief, just as the Postmaster-General goes to the Secretary of the Post Office, and will ask him to give his opinion on the point. After discussion, a definite decision will be come to. Possibly the Commander-in-Chief will like the arrangement, possibly not. If he does, then of course it is all plain sailing. Suppose, however, he does not, but that he fails to convince the Cabinet Minister. In that case he will, nevertheless, be called upon to carry it out,—unless, of course, in an extreme case of disagreement, a disagreement on what must be deemed a vital point, in which case he must resign. Granted, however, that the difference of opinion would not justify such a step—and very few differences would do that—the Secretary of State calls upon the Commander-in-Chief, as the technical expert, to carry out his order in the best possible way. Surely this order will be imposed upon the Army with the best chances of success by a man who can view its effect all round, and realise the modifications and changes necessary throughout the service,—that is, it will be best carried out by an official head of the Army such as we desire to see. Now, look at what happens under the plan which makes the Commander-in-Chief merely the official head of the most important department in the Army, and not the official head of the Army as a whole. The Secretary of State, when he proposes to take a particular step, will not be obliged to discuss it with the Commander-in-Chief. Leaving him aside, he will go straight to the Quartermaster-General, or whichever of the departmental heads is concerned, and will entrust him with the carrying out of the matter. Thus, the Commander-in-Chief may not know of the change till it is accomplished. But it is obvious that there are many plans which, though excellent from the departmental point of view, may be bad or undesirable from the point of view of the Army as a whole, or at any rate bad if not carried out in a special and particular way which would only occur to the mind of a man who had an outlook over the whole military field. An army is not, and cannot be, divided into water-tight compartments. You cannot transform the arrangements connected with the artillery without affecting the rest of the machine. Hence the necessity for having a technical head of the whole Army, for taking his advice on all departmental points, and for making all changes through him. The Commander-in-Chief will, of course, himself consult the heads of departments when he is told to carry out this or that arrangement, but he will take care to make their suggestions harmonise with the general arrangements of the Army. Perhaps, however, the best way to realise how undesirable is the scheme which Mr. Balfour expounded, and which, it is to be feared, we are about to see carried out, is to think of what becomes of the principle of responsibility in the case of a blunder. Suppose that war took place, and that almost immediately it was discovered that there existed a most serious deficiency in military stores, the country would ask the Commander-in-Chief what on earth he meant by allowing such a deficiency, and they would propose to make an example of him for so flagrant an act of neglect. But they would fail. The Commander-in-Chief would say, "I deplore the fact as much as anyone, and should have liked to protest long ago against the prevailing state of affairs, but unhappily the matter was not in my department. The Secretary of State confers directly with the official whose duty it is to see to the military stores, and they settle it between them without reference to me. It is a bad system, but I did not invent it." Then the country would turn to the head of the department responsible for military stores, confident that at last they had got the author of the disaster. Again they would be foiled. He would say, and say reasonably enough, "You cannot blame me. I was asked by the Secretary of State to say what amount of stores should be kept in hand for use in England. I took as the basis of my calculations the Regulars, Reserves, Militia, and Volunteers in England. I was never told, and did not know, that the moment war was declared 30,000 more men were to be added to the home army by bringing white troops direct from India, and by putting native troops into Gibraltar, Egypt, and Malta. This, of course, utterly upset my calculations, for note that it is only by just the home supplies for 30,000 men that we are short. Blame, then, those who let me make my calculations on so faulty a basis." Half-hopeless of success, the country would, as a last resort, try to fix responsibility on the Secretary of State. But here, again, they would be defeated. He would say, "All I can say is that I ordered the Stores Department to make the amplest possible preparations for all emergencies. I did not attempt to put any limit. That was a purely technical matter with which I was not competent to deal. My policy was a sound one—to have enough stores. If there was a failure it was due not to me but to the absurd arrangement of 1895, under which there was no proper technical control over the Army as a whole." In this way the responsibility for the blunder would be frittered away and lost altogether. It is a very different story when there is a real Commander-in-Chief. Then all responsibility must rest either upon him or on the Secretary of State. If the policy was faulty, then it is the Cabinet Minister who is to blame. If it was the technical carrying-out of that policy, then the Commander-in-Chief must bear the burden. For example, in the case last stated, if the Secretary of State could say—"I told the Commander-in-Chief that the policy of the Cabinet would involve the bringing home of 30,000 extra troops, and ordered him to make all the arrangements that this would necessitate, one of which was, of course, a due increase of stores," then rightly the country would blame the Commander-in-Chief. If, however, it appeared that the Commander-in-Chief had written a memorandum warning the Secretary of State that more stores must be got in view of his policy, and if the Secretary of State had refused to sanction their preparation, then most assuredly the Secretary of State would be to blame. The responsibility for failure must rest on one of them personally, and could not be shifted or shuffled off. Look at it how you will, there must be some single person responsible for an army on its technical side. In despotic or semi-despotic countries like Germany, that person is the Sovereign, and he is also responsible for the policy. In England we cannot have so simple an arrangement, but we can have a system under which one man is responsible for the policy that is to rule the Army, and another responsible for the technical side of the Army. This we might get by a Secretary of State for War and a Commander-in-Chief acting as his official *alter ego*—a soldier whose brain works the whole machine, subject only to the final control of the Secretary of State in all matters of policy.

While dwelling upon the appalling mistake which the Government are, we fear, about to commit, we should like to draw the attention of our readers to the important preface which Mr. Spenser Wilkinson has added to the new edition of his fascinating and most valuable little book, "The Brain of an Army" (Constable). He there discusses the question we have just been discussing, and comes, it appears to us, substantially to the same conclusion as we do. Mr. Wilkinson's competence to speak on these matters has been vouched for by Moltke himself, and needs no words from us. As civilians, however, we are extremely glad to have our view supported by the weight of his authority. His words confirm us in the opinion that there must be a single directing brain for the making and keeping in order of an army, but that this person need not be the man who directs the policy of the army. Here, then, are functions ready both for the Commander-in-Chief and the Secretary of State. The master orders where the carriage is to drive, and what kinds and how many carriages there are to be, but he trusts the head-coachman to arrange the grooms' and helpers' work, and to look after the feeding of the horses. This is the sort of dual control we want in the army,—not a control which will make the master give separate orders to the coachman, to the men who clean the carriages, and to the grooms who do the exercising, but one under which all the orders go through the head-coachman. That head-coachman is responsible for the stables as a whole; but to say this is not to say that he is the master and can do what he likes with the carriages and horses.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

HOURS OF SITTING AND DIVISIONS.

Figures compiled from the records show that during the session now closed, which lasted from the 13th August to the 19th December, the Assembly held 53 sittings, several of them two days in length. The average length of the sittings for the session was no less than 11 hours 38 minutes, and the House sat for 227 hours beyond midnight. There were 126 divisions in committee and 39 in the House, and in regard to the latter the five members who attended most divisions were:—Mr. Brunker, 36; Mr. Cook, 37; Mr. Farnell, 36; Mr. Young, 37; and Mr. Fegan, 37. During the session 681 questions were asked, and notice was given of no less than 3858 motions. There were 139 orders of the day. A comparative table of the work of Parliament since 1860 discloses the interesting fact that there is a steady tendency to increase the length of each sitting. Selecting from 1859 to 1886 the seven sessions having the longest average sittings, it is found that the average, even on this unfavourable method of reckoning, does not exceed 7 hours 53 minutes per sitting. Since 1887 the figures are as follows:—Session of 1887, duration, 62 sitting days; average length of sitting, 8 hours 22 minutes; session of 1887-88, 121 sitting days; average, 9 hours 11 minutes. Session of 1888-89, 36 sitting days; average, 8 hours 7 minutes. Session of 1889, 105 sitting days; average, 8 hours 33 minutes. Second session of 1889, 13 sitting days; average, 5 hours 30 minutes. Session of 1890, 112 sitting days; average, 8 hours 7 minutes. Session of 1891, 7 sitting days; average, 6 hours 38 minutes. Session of 1891-92, 112 sitting days; average, 9 hours 9 minutes. Session of 1892-93, 116 sitting days; average, 9 hours 27 minutes. Session of 1893, 36 sitting days; average, 7 hours 9 minutes. Session of 1894, 60 sitting days; average, 8 hours 11 minutes. Session of 1894-95, 111 sitting days; average, 10 hours 6 minutes. Session of 1895, 53 sitting days; average, 11 hours 38 minutes. It will thus be seen that there has been a steady increase in the length of each sitting, and that in this respect the last session topped the record. This is partly due to the fact that the number of all-night sittings was above the average. The sittings of the Assembly, it may be noted, are from half-past 4 in the afternoon, or about the time when the day's work for most people is nearly over.

ANOTHER "PLANK" FOR THE LABOUR PARTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Mr. M'Millan—as reported in your columns—stated in the Assembly during the recent debate upon the Estimates that "the more a man thought over the matter of the unemployed, and the more he studied it, the more difficult and insoluble it became."

The truth of this statement is evident from the fact that all the schemes, proposals, and practical experiments of the last few years have discovered no glimmer of light or any loophole through which we may scramble out of the difficulty; and it becomes evidently reasonable to suppose that it is in consequence of certain social and economic conditions at present obtaining that the problem remains insoluble. Federal action between the colonies is probably the starting point in the solution. Isolated action on the part of one colony only makes that colony "a cesspit for the wandering idleness" of the rest of the colonies, as Mr. M'Millan put it—wandering unemployed would have been a more truthful and generous expression. Now, although no direct method of overcoming the difficulty may yet be found, there can be no doubt of the existence of negative methods of procedure that would tend to considerably reduce the evil, and render the problem less complicated than it is at present; and your leading article in the issue of the 16th opens out a path in this direction.

You say in that article that "The doctrine that required to be enforced at the present time is that new lines will add loss to the whole railway system rather than the one that new lines feed the whole," and figures and facts, at the disposal of anyone with sense enough to pick them up, make the position you take in that statement an impregnable one, and it furnishes an additional plank for the labour platform when stated thus: "The strongest opposition to the extension of our railway system, unless it can be shown upon the most reliable authority that such extension will pay working expenses and interest upon outlay."

What wonder that we have such a host of unemployed when, for the year ending 1894, the sum of £339,203 was lost to the country through the unprofitable working of some 18 or 20 "feeders (?) to the main lines." We import large quantities of produce, the local production of which ought to find work for a large number of those now out of work. Why is this? Because the railway charges beyond a limited distance are such as to leave too small a margin of profit in the producers' hands. Why don't the railway authorities reduce the rates and so encourage production and consequent traffic? Because they are expected to make the lines pay, and in consequence of the heavy losses in working new feeders (?) to the main lines they are obliged to charge higher rates all round than they otherwise would.

The unemployed, then, have to thank the railway extensions for a large portion of their sufferings. Undoubtedly, if it had not been for the £339,203 dead loss upon unprofitable new lines the Commissioners would have been able to make an all-round reduction in the rates for goods traffic of more than 20 per cent., and this great reduction in the cost of getting produce to market would have stimulated production and trade in a wonderful manner. Sir, I cannot lay too much stress upon the importance to the working classes of this colony of an united labour party opposing with all their power every attempt to extend our railway system unless it can be shown upon the most reliable authority that such extension will pay working expenses and interest upon outlay. So long as the Railway Commissioners continue their efforts towards the improvement of our railways so long ought they to be able to depend upon the labour party in Parliament as they would depend upon their own right hands.

Let the labour members hold fast to the plank I have proposed and they will do faithful and noble work for their cause, and if they broaden the plank so as to include all public works of doubtful value so much the better. I am, &c.,

December 20. ALBERT DAWSON.

The Court at Rotterdam gave judgment on the 6th November in favour of the North German Lloyd Company in the suit brought by them against the owners of the British steamer Crathie, which ran into and sank the Elbe off Lowestoft. The amount of the damage is to be fixed subsequently, with interest at 6 per cent.

REMEMBER, Anti-Fermentine Prevents Fermentation and Loss in all Fruits, Preserves, Pickles, Milk, Butter, &c. For Sale by all Storekeepers.—[ADVT.]

A HIGH HONOUR.
PEARS, Soap Makers by special appointment to her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.—[ADVT.]

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

CHRISTMAS DAY AND BOXING DAY.

To-day the work of the General Post Office will practically be suspended after 10 a.m. There will not be any delivery by the letter-carriers. The electric telegraph branch will be closed to-day. Christmas services will be held at St. Andrew's Cathedral. The Primate will preach at the morning service, and carols will be sung in the evening. At St. John's, Darlinghurst, the Rev. E. Lampard will preach in the morning; and carols will be sung, and an address given by the Rev. A. W. Pain in the evening. At St. Barnabas', George-street West, and St. Paul's, Burwood, special services will be held. At St. Patrick's R. C. Church Cherubini's Mass will be performed at 11 o'clock.

This afternoon some sailing races will be held off Clark Island under the auspices of the Sydney Flying Squadron; a programme of pony races will be carried out at Lillie Bridge; a picnic will be held at Athol Gardens; and there will be steamer excursions to Manly, Watson's Bay, and other parts of the harbour. To Manly two lines of steamers will run, that owned by the Port Jackson S.S. Company and that owned by the Co-operative S. Ferry Company. One of the attractions of Manly will be Thiodon's Wonders, which are being exhibited at the Corso Hall. The Cyclorama of Jerusalem, opposite the Redfern Railway Station, will be opened to-day at 2.30 p.m. The management of the Coogee Palace Aquarium announces a concert for this afternoon.

The Philharmonic Society has come forward again this year to provide the great Christmas performance at the Town Hall of Handel's "Messiah," without which the musical record of the past twelve months would be incomplete. Signor Hazon's "Australian edition" of the immortal work will be presented. This consists practically of the first two parts almost in their entirety, with "I know that My Redeemer Liveth" inserted immediately before the "Hallelujah Chorus"—the whole performance thus not exceeding 2½ hours. The full choir of 300 voices, supported by an orchestra of 60 performers (led by Mr. Rivers Allpress), and further assisted by the grand organ (Mr. Wiegand), will render "For Unto Us," "All We Like Sheep," and other colossal choruses. The solo quartet will consist of Miss Colbourne Baber, Mrs. Riley, Mr. Weir, and Mr. Hallewell. There will be 1000 seats at 1s, and the same number at 2s and 3s.

Mlle. Antoinette Trebelli, one of the most brilliant sopranos who has visited Australia, will give a sacred concert at the York-street Centenary Hall to-night (under Mr. J. Edward Sykes's direction), when she will be heard for the first time in oratorio music. Mlle. Trebelli will sing Handel's declamatory aria, "Let the Bright Seraphim;" Haddock's song, "The Soul's Awakening;" "Home, Sweet Home;" and the Mascagni "Ave Maria" (with violin obbligato and organ accompaniment). Miss Blanche Thomas will sing Beethoven's "Creation Hymn" and Gounod's "There is a Green Hill Far Away." In addition to the solos, which will be played by Signor de Beaupuis and M. Poussard, these artists will join with Mr. J. Edward Sykes in a setting for piano, violin, and organ of the "Marche Religieuse" from "Lohengrin," and of a "Meditation" by Dubois.

Probably with a view to meeting popular tastes, which are known not to be strongly in favour of new oratorio, the concert at Her Majesty's Theatre to-night will be of a miscellaneous character, and only six numbers of M. Henri Kowalski's "The Future Life" will be given. Mr. Charles Huenerbein is again musical director of Her Majesty's Theatre Concert, the chief feature in the first part of which will be Kowalski's grand fantasia "Across the Pacific" (Op. 52.), which will be rendered by the composer at the piano, with orchestral accompaniment directed by Mr. Huenerbein. The Meistersinger Vocal Quartette, and solos by Miss Hetty Holroyd, Miss Ethel Searle, Mrs. J. F. Truscott, Mr. Edgar Straus, and Mr. H. T. Gordon will be comprised in the first part. A full orchestra and chorus will be employed in "Future Life," in which Miss Holroyd will sing the soprano part of "A Maiden," and Mr. H. T. Gordon the bass part of "The Death."

There will be a sacred concert at the Tivoli Theatre.

To-morrow Professor J. W. Price will make a balloon ascent and also a parachute descent at Clifton Gardens (formerly Chowder); the Australian Jockey Club will hold a meeting at Randwick; the United Friendly Societies will hold a sports gathering at the Agricultural Society's Grounds; a cricket match, Sydney Juniors v. North Coast District, will be played on the Sydney Cricket Ground; the Hibernian A. C. B. Society will hold its annual picnic at Athol Gardens; the City Mission will hold a picnic at Pearl Bay; a picnic will be held at Fern Bay; and there will also be a gathering of pleasure-seekers at Correy's Gardens, Cabarita; a variety entertainment is to be given at the Coogee Palace Aquarium; in connection with the Bondi Aquarium a "gorgeous and resplendent variety entertainment" is announced, and it is also notified that Professor Leo, the ropewalker, will, with his little sister, perform a series of "deeds of daring and desperation." It has also been arranged that Sir Joseph Banks pavilions and gardens at Botany shall be open to visitors. Rodd Island will also be open to picnic parties. Large steamers belonging to the Newcastle and Hunter River S.S. Company will make ocean excursions to Careel Bay, Newport, and Port Hacking; there will also be excursions to Manly, Watson's Bay, and Middle Harbour. A matinée performance of "Robinson Crusoe" will be given at Her Majesty's; and a matinée performance of the musical comedy, "Pat, or the Bells of Rathbeal," at the Theatre Royal. The usual performance will be given at the several theatres and music halls in the evening.

The tramway arrangements for the Christmas and Boxing Day holidays have been issued, and provision has been made for carrying large bodies of people to the various holiday resorts, and for the extra traffic consequent upon the holidays. To-day trams will run as on ordinary days, except that the early workmen's trams are cancelled. Specials will run to Lillie Bridge in connection with the races to be held there. On Boxing Day trams will run at frequent intervals from Bent-street to the Railway Steps, to the Randwick Racecourse and the Agricultural Ground, in connection with the Friendly Societies' Sports. Extra trams will run to Bondi and Coogee throughout the day. Special trams will be run on all lines during the mornings and evenings. On the Ocean-street line special provision is made for the holiday traffic, whilst the requirements of the North Shore, Abbotsford, and St. Peters line have been considered.

EWENMAR WEIR ON THE MACQUARIE RIVER.

The weir on the Macquarie River, for which a tender has been accepted by the Hon. Sydney Smith, the Minister for Mines and Agriculture, will be of solid concrete. The site is about 35 miles up stream from Warren, or about 32 miles above the weir which is now reaching completion, and is only about 11 miles from the Trangie station, on the Great Western Railway. The height of the weir in the centre is 21½ft., and it rises at the sides to 39ft.; and as the Macquarie River is subject to sudden and high floods, it was obvious at the outset that the work must be of a substantial character. The concrete weir will hold back the water in the river channel to a distance of about 15 miles, and will in this way impound about 840 million gallons. But the main object of the weir is to divert a portion of the waters of the Macquarie into the Ewenmar, Marthaguy, and other creeks on the east side of the river. The area of Crown land within three miles of the creeks which will thus receive a supply of water by means of the weir and the cutting to be carried out amounts to about 369 miles, or say 236,000 acres. The next weir on the Macquarie River with which the Minister proposes to deal is that intended to be constructed at Narromine. This weir will have the double object of diverting water into natural creeks and supplying water for irrigation purposes. The contract price for the Ewenmar weir is £5437, the contractor being Mr. Crosbie. This is slightly less than the cost of the weir now being built near Warren. The action of the Government in proposing to proceed with the locking of the Darling is received with much favour by those interested in water conservation, and the Minister for Mines, Mr. Sydney Smith, thinks the work will have a most important result as far as that part of the western country is concerned.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

It will be remembered that at the beginning of this month the Premier received a deputation of men who had been engaged on relief works at the Centennial Park for some months past, the object of the deputation being to ask for a small concession in the way of cash wages for Christmas time. Mr. Reid promised to consult his colleagues, the Ministers for Works and for Labour and for Industry, with the view of ascertaining whether it would be possible to grant the men some Christmas concession of this kind. The result of this consultation was that between 2500 and 3000 men were put on various relief works, including the road from Berowra railway station to Cowan Bay, the Bunnerong-road at Randwick, work at Cockatoo Island, the road to the Art Gallery, the approach to Botany wharf, and the Church and School lands at Randwick. The remainder of the men who could not be absorbed on these works were employed at Centennial Park. The rate of pay for the special works above enumerated was 6s a day, single men getting three days' work and married men six days' work. The men at the Centennial Park were paid 5s, the same distinction being made between married and single men as in the last case. The men sent to make the road from Berowra station, numbering nearly 400, returned to Sydney on Saturday last, and the men, about 950 in all, who were found work at the Centennial Park were paid off at the Labour Bureau last Monday. The work at the Centennial Park was carried out under the supervision of the Department of Labour and Industry, and the special works already mentioned under the supervision of the Works Department. The work for rations at the Centennial Park and at the Church and School lands at Randwick, and at Shea's Creek, still continues, the cash work having been a special concession. All the men for this were selected through the Labour Bureau, the more arduous and better-paid work being given to the men who had shown themselves the most deserving.

SPRINGTIME.
A safe and valuable blood purifier is KAYE'S FLUID MAGNESIA. Insure your health against all risks by a course of this medicine. Prescribed and recommended by physicians in cases of indigestion, acidity of the stomach, and nervous headache. To be obtained of all chemists.—[ADVT.]

POLICE COURTS.

ALLEGED THEFT FROM A WHARF.

In the Water Police Court yesterday, before Captain Fisher, S.M., Arthur Alfred Biggs and James Kelly, two middle-aged men, and a girl named Emily Walker, were charged with having stolen in company from Moore's Wharf, Miller's Point, a number of corsets, value £27 10s, the property of J. E. Newport and Sons, Sydney. The accused Biggs was arrested on the 14th instant at his residence in Crown-street by Sergeant Blackburn, who had two days previously found the case of corsets in a loft over a stable at the rear of a shop in William-street. The corsets were identified as part of a shipment ex Star of England to J. E. Newport and Sons, and were missed from Moore's Wharf on the 15th November. Biggs was identified as the man who rented the stable for the purpose of putting a case there. The case he said contained furniture. The accused Kelly and the girl Walker were arrested in the residence of Kelly by Constable Travers. At the time Walker was wearing a pair of stays, which she said she had obtained from a draper. The draper on being interviewed denied having sold such a pair. The two men were committed for trial at the next Court of Quarter Sessions, and were allowed bail. The girl Walker was discharged.

The same three were also charged with having stolen a number of hearth rugs, the property of Gardiner and Co., Sydney. The hearth rugs were valued at £21 4s 9d, and were stolen from Moore's wharf. The two men were committed for trial, and the girl was discharged.

A SERIOUS ASSAULT ON A CONSTABLE.

Before Captain Fisher, S.M., in the Water Police Court yesterday, Thomas Downes, alias Philip M'Grory, 28, a labourer, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Flinders-street. For this offence he was fined £2, with the option of seven days' imprisonment. He was then charged with having assaulted Constable O'Keefe in the execution of his duty. The evidence showed that as O'Keefe was attempting to arrest him on the minor charge Downes rushed at him, butted him in the stomach, and hit him in the face with his fists. The constable's face was much cut about, and both his eyes were swollen. Senior-constable Hamilton arrived on the scene in time to prevent any dangerous results accruing from the assault and he assisted O'Keefe to secure accused. Downes was ordered to be imprisoned for six months without the option of a fine.

THE RESULT OF BOYS FIGHTING.

At the Glebe Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Smithers, S.M., Jane Pear, mother of Sydney Pear, a lad of 12 years of age, proceeded against another boy, named William Henry Roberts, for having, on the 19th November last, assaulted her son, by hitting him on the head. Mr. Thompson appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Bull for the defence. Jane Pear stated that she sent her son for a message. He was so long away that upon his return she sent him to bed as punishment. Next morning when she awoke the boy was trembling in bed. Upon an examination he was found to be suffering from shock, and was bruised about the body. He continued ill that day and the following day. On the Friday evening he became delirious and a doctor was sent for. The lad remained in bed for about two weeks, the doctor attending him. His head was very much swollen and black. Sydney Pear stated that on the 19th November he met the accused. They had a fight. The accused got witness down on the ground and struck him several times with a door key, and afterwards with several pieces of blue metal. He also threatened to get a knife. Witness admitted challenging the accused to fight in the first instance. For the defence, William Henry Roberts stated that Pear challenged him to fight. Witness did not want to fight, and tried to get away. Three other boys, friends of Sydney Pear, prevented him going. Pear then struck him, and witness in self-defence struck Pear with a key five times. Mr. Smithers said there was no doubt it was a boys' quarrell, started by Sydney Pear, who got the worst of it. Both boys were equally to blame, and he would dismiss the case without costs.

CHARGE OF BREAKING AND ENTERING.

At the Glebe Police Court yesterday, before Mr. G. H. Smithers, S.M., Charles Diore, age 19, was charged at the instance of Constables Bannay and Sutherland with having broken into the stable of Joseph Egan and stealing property of John P. Brown, viz., one racing saddle and bridle and a body brush, valued at £3 15s, on the 6th December, at Annandale. The magistrate reduced the charge to one of stealing, and accused, who refused to be summarily dealt with, was committed to take his trial at the next Court of Quarter Sessions.

UNJUST WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

At the Glebe Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Smithers, S.M., Inspector Evans, of the Weights and Measures Department, proceeded against eight persons for having in their possession weights or measures which were either unstamped or unjust. Fines were imposed in each case averaging in amount from 5s to £3, with costs of court added.

ASSAULTING A CONSTABLE.

At the Newtown Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Giles, S.M., Patrick Kelly, age 30, was charged with having, on Monday evening, used bad language at Petersham, for which he was fined 10s, in default, seven days' imprisonment. He was further charged with having, on the same occasion, assaulted Constable M'Garrigle while conveying him to the lockup, for which he was ordered to pay a further fine of 20s, in default 21 days' imprisonment.

ILLEGALLY TRAVELLING IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.

William Dawson, a labourer, was charged at the Central Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Smithers, S.M., with having travelled by train from Woolbrook to Sydney without having paid his fare. He was fined 40s, levy and distress, in default to be confined in the cells for two hours.

LICENSING COURT.

The weekly meeting of the Licensing Court was held in the Water Police Office yesterday. There were present Mr. Johnson, S.M. (chairman), Mr. Giles, S.M., and Mr. Penny, L.M. The following transfers were granted:—Balmain Ferry Hotel, Erskine-street, from William Henry Moyes (administrator in the estate of John H. Moyes) to Louisa Oliver; Waverley Hotel, Waverley, from John Bourke to Mark Robinson; Great Western Hotel, Bourke-street, from Elizabeth Fehrenbach to Thomas Fitzgerald; Grand Central Coffee Palace, from William Clark to James J. Smith. On the application of Terence F. Sweeney the sign of the Wealth of Nations Hotel was changed to the South Australian Club Hotel. An auctioneer's special license was granted to Edward W. Morgan. Thirty-three billiard licenses were granted.

TENDERS ACCEPTED.

Tenders have been accepted for the following public works:—Contract No. 32, 95-6, road from Jerilderie to Coreen, Doyle, Scoullar, and Price (Daysdale), £318 15s 3d; contract No. 16, 95-6, road from Pittwater to Barrenjoey, R. J. Porter (Pittwater), £242 3s 4d; contract No. 35, 95, road from Moss Vale to Kiama, S. Maguire (Mittagong), £318; contract No. 31, 95-6, road from Gosford, via Wyong Creek and Morisset to Cooranbong, D. Cullis (Wickham), £334 11s 4d; contract No. 41, 95-6, road from Wyong to Yarramalong, W. J. Hill, £175; contract No. 28, 95-6, road from Bombala to Merimbula, M. Beakey (Bega), £221 13s 4d; contract No. 28, 95-6, road from Kangaroo Valley via Broger's Creek to Kangaroo Mount, A. Usher (Cambewarra), £285 13s; contract No. 47, 95-6, road from Kelly's, via Sharpe's, to Moonee, J. Baker (Kangaroo Creek), £250 13s 10½d; contract No. 14, 95-6, road from Wellington to Goolma, C. H. Siggins (Wellington), £255 15s; contract No. 15, 95-6, road from Wellington towards Cobborah, Joyce and Gordon (Dubbo), £213 12s 6d; contract No. 38, 95, road from Bendemeer to Hall's Creek, W. and G. Reid (Bendemeer), £196 16s 10d; contract No. 33, 95-6, road from Balmain over the Iron Cove and Parramatta to Ryde, J. M'Sweeney (Sydney), £172 18s 4d; bridge over the Cooradigbee, road from Yass to Tumut, W. J. Lansdown (Goulburn), £1628; bridge over Hergenham's Creek, Main South Coast-road, J. Guthrie (Bega), £218 16s 3d; repairs to bridge over the Deepwater, road from Glen Innes to Tenterfield, T. T. Kelly (Deepwater), £239 10s 5d; bridge for pipe crossing over stormwater channel, Young-street (Newcastle), M. Keenan, £89 8s 2d; erecting waiting-shed, &c., Manly, C. M'Clure (Liverpool), £488 18s; blinds, office of the Registrar-General, J. Russell (Sydney), £42 17s 6d; repairs, post-office, Queanbeyan, J. Jordan (Queanbeyan), £58 14s 3d; repairs, courthouse, Young, H. R. Blackett (Young), £179 14s 6d; wharfinger's office, Circular Quay, L. Thomas (Sydney), £129 4s; extension of water-main, &c., Newcastle Asylum, W. J. Boyer (Newcastle), £29; repairs, post-office, Dungog, J. A. Hall (Dungog), £58 10s; laying-on water, overseer's cottage, Rookwood Asylum, Murray Brothers (Parramatta), £6 12s; water-heater, Parramatta Asylum, Murray Brothers (Parramatta), £41 1s 6d; alterations to post-office, Mudgee, Stoddart and Casimir (Mudgee), £85; repairs, police station, Greta, B. G. Pearce (Greta), £27 10s; ceiling, courthouse, Mudgee, Wunderlich Patent Ceiling Company, Limited, £98 10s; repairs, boatmen's quarters, Newcastle, E. Lake and Co. (Newcastle), £29 15s; tanks, &c., courthouse, Dungog, J. A. Hall (Dungog), £21 13s; painting, &c., lock-up, Randwick, B. Taylor (Sydney), £15 16s 6d; ceiling, Mudgee courthouse, Wunderlich Patent Ceiling and Roofing Company, Limited (Sydney), £98 10s; Armidale Water Supply, contract 3a, clearing reservoir site, A. R. Coleman (Smithfield), 30 per cent. below schedule.

HAZELBROOK, BLUE MOUNTAINS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Through your kind instrumentality I desire to inform the general public that although this station has been omitted from the holiday excursion leaflet issued by the Railway Commissioners it is still actually possible for intending visitors to arrive here by giving notice to the guard at Linden of their wish to alight at Hazelbrook.

The Commissioners evidently think that although some persons may be anxious to get away from Hazelbrook no one has any desire to come here from Sydney. This is the only explanation of the fact that while on the leaflet enclosed you will see they have arranged for all the excursion trains in the holidays to call here on their way to Sydney, the name of the station is omitted entirely from the time-table of the trains coming from Sydney. I am, &c.,

December 23. M. S. DUFF.

C. BRANDAUER AND CO.'S Circular-Pointed Pens write as smoothly as a lead pencil, and neither scratch nor spurt, the points being rounded by a new process. Seven prize medals awarded. Sold by all storekeepers. Works, Birmingham, England.—[ADVT.]

ANTI-FERMENTINE is the Housekeeper's Friend. Ask your Storekeeper about it.—[ADVT.]

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SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—December 24.

Lord Rosebery, four-masted ship, 2768 tons, from Rio Janeiro, in ballast. A. M'Arthur and Co., agents.

Wollumbin (s.), 230 tons, Captain James Colvin, from Byron Bay 20th December. Passengers—Mrs. Skelton, Messrs. T. Nicolas, A. Hardwood, M. Byrnes, J. D. Oldengrove, J. Spain, W. Harvey, E. Flynn, J. Jones, and 2 in the steerage. Geo. W. Nicoll, agent.

Rosedale (s.), 274 tons, Captain L. Paulsen, from Nambucca and Port Macquarie. Passengers—Dr. Bottrill, Messrs. Field, Latham, Higgins, Buckley, Mitchell, Bolton, Davis, Munton, Fleming, Woodland, Loutett, Roberts (2), Beyett, Robson, Bolton, Nortman, Sullivan, White, Shaw, Baily (2), Winter, Lloyd, Scott, Noble, Condon, Grant, Freddy, Mesdames Norman, Edwards, Noble, Grant, Nicolls, Misses Thompson, Conen, Baily, Edwards, Dick, Sullivan, and 20 in the steerage. North Coast S. N. Company, Limited, agents.

Bega (s.), 552 tons, Captain W. O. Hersee, from Clyde River and Ulladulla. Passengers—Miss Tompkins, Messrs. Barnes, Joubert, Pollock, Potter, Hibberd, Tompkins, Heighway, Master Hughes, and 7 in the steerage. Illawarra S. N. Company, Limited, agents.

Electra (s.), 398 tons, Captain E. Farrel, from Manning River 24th December. Passengers—Mesdames Aitken, R. Malcom, G. Knight, Miss C. Allen, Messrs. M. Butts, M. Murphy, T. Aitken, R. Logg, R. G. Tilney, T. Payne, Hartle, Holloway, Norton, Frihy, W. H. Whatson, W. Pearson, Master Burfitt, M. Presser, Mr. Schneider, and 17 in the fore cabin. North Coast S. N. Company, Limited, agents.

Airlie (s.), 2337 tons, Captain Ellis, from Melbourne. Gibbs, Bright, and Co., agents.

Namoi (s.), 1414 tons, Captain Skinner, from Newcastle. Newcastle and Hunter River S.S. Company, Limited, agents.

Gulf of Martaban (s.), 2418 tons, Captain Hoy, from Liverpool 8th November. A. M'Arthur and Co., agents.

J. C. Taylor, ketch, 74 tons, from Brisbane 13th December. J. C. Read, jun., agent.

DEPARTURES.—December 24.

Thermopylæ (s.), for London, via ports.
Tasmania (s.), for Auckland.
Tambo (s.), for Hobart.
Wodonga (s.), for Queensland ports.
Arawatta (s.), for Melbourne.
Rockton (s.), for Western Australia.
Talune (s.), for Newcastle.
Gulf of Mexico (s.), for Hamburg and London.
Obed Baxter, barque, for Boston.
Neotsfield, ship, for London.

CLEARANCES.—December 24.

Rockton (s.), 1979 tons, Captain Simpson, for Geraldton, W.A., via ports. Passengers—Mrs. James Dart, Mrs. Weddell, Misses Grone, N. Grone, Alger, M. Morgan, E. Morgan, Murray, Morley, M. Weddell, Howe, Morley, Messrs. James Dart, W. Smith, G. Houghton, A. Dellit, R. Worrall, Morley, C. A. Monk, Lee, and 45 steerage.

Wodonga (s.), 2114 tons, Captain J. E. Meaburn, for Brisbane and Northern ports. Passengers—Madame Duflot, Mrs. J. Grahl, nurse and children, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Rourke, Mrs. Latchford, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Royal, Misses Duflot, C. Holt, F. Archibald, Pears, G. Leatham, Messrs. H. Sargeant, B. Lampert, Morgan, Casey, R. Williams, J. Harlen, A. Graham, R. J. Sharp, Latchford, F. Gardiner, J. R. Castling, L. J. Thompson, R. M'Nab, T. E. Mathieson, J. Hurley, G. Hunter, S. E. Mathieson, R. I. Archibald, and 36 steerage.

Arawatta (s.), 2114 tons, Captain Frank Lee, for Melbourne. Passengers—Mesdames Nelson, Vaughan, Cheetham, Lane, Fraser, Wright, Jarry, Clark, Browne, Strickland, 3 children and maid, Bond, A. D. Smith and 2 children, Misses Trim, Single, Bourne, Moore, Dewar, Sydney South, Nelson, Vaughan, E. Hart, Hyde, J. Hyde, Kelso, Dewar, Wright, Leake, M'Lauchlan, Biggar, Biggar, Messrs. Ferrier, G. O'Neill, Biggar, C. L. Roholm, S. E. Sherwood, R. G. M'Kenzie, Strickland, E. Woolcott, M'Intyre, E. Walker, Grist, Fankins, Horner, Ping, Stoddart, Darcy, Eaton, Fraser, Bond, Cameron, Cheetham, Ingamells, W. H. Brooks, H. Smith, J. Keaward, J. Fielding, Roholm, Rankin, Paddock, A. D. Smith, Lumley Hill, W. Smith, J. Brown, James Gibbs, W. W. Rowntree, E. J. Took, A. Campbell, Taylor, J. B. Alexander, Rev. J. Maroney, Rev. J. Carden, Mayor Broughton, Masters Jarry, A. and H. Hedeman, Rouse (2), Stoddart (2), Taylor, and 37 in the steerage.

Tambo (s.), 732 tons, Captain W. Hipgrave, for Hobart. Passengers—Mrs. Alsopp, Misses Chalmers, B. Montgomery, E. Cavanough, Bartley, Bartley, Fearley, Messrs. C. Barnett, W. Alsopp, Himmeloch, Master Himmeloch, and 5 in the steerage.

Thermopylæ (s.), 3711 tons, Captain A. Simpson, for London, via ports and Capetown, with passengers as published yesterday.

Talune (s.), 2020 tons, Captain E. Phillips, for Newcastle, with part original cargo.

Gulf of Mexico (s.), 3172 tons, Captain W. Warden, for Hamburg.

Tasmania (s.), Captain T. M'Gee, for Auckland. Passengers—Mesdames Way, Balmer, Davies, Stevenson, T. Walsh, Cadell, Norton, Campbell, Misses Moore, Friends, A. Hughes, Braithwaite, Moral, Messrs. W. E. Griffin, Lipscombe, A. R. Triggs, G. Fenney, G. Ecombe, Hon. Bowerie, Canon Bowerie, P. Watson, Way, W. G. Balmer, J. Walsh, Hardcastle, F. W. Ives, W. Brown, Cadell, J. A. Furlonge, Worton, A. B. Campbell, H. Montgomery, G. A. Wood, Philipson, J. Riley, H. S. Myers, M'Lean, and 80 in the steerage.

COASTERS OUTWARD.—December 25.

Annie, ketch, Captain J. B. Smith, for Manning River.

IMPORTS.—December 24.

[A special charge is made for consignees' notices in this column.]

Australien (s.), from Noumea: For Marseilles—2765 bags mineral, 1480 bags copra, 514 packages coffee, 22 casks tallow, 7 cases curios, 9 packages skins, 2800 cases meats, 106 hides.

Burrumbeet (s.), from Melbourne: 1800 bags salt, 937 bags chaff, 14 cases eggs, 115 bags earth, 15 bundles rattans, 204 cases fruit, 30 bales kapok, 3 cases typewriters, 9 bales paper, 166 bags wheat, 6 bundles rakes, 10 cases chairs, 45 bags flour, 138 bags onions, and sundries.

Electra (s.), from Manning River: 85 bags maize, 31 bags oysters, 3 bags potatoes, 82 cases eggs, 33 coops poultry, 66 hides, 22 kegs butter, 300 sleepers, 35 packages sundries.

Wollumbin (s.), from Byron Bay and ports: 36 pine logs, 8 hardwood, 7 beech, and 1 cedar log, 5000ft. sawn timber, 206 boxes and 1 keg butter, 27 pigs, 5 coops poultry, 6 cases eggs, 1 box glass, 136 bags sugar, and sundries.

Bega (s.), from Ulladulla: 25 kegs butter, 43 cans cream, 10 cases eggs, 20 cases poultry, 22 bags oysters, 8 cases fish, 14 pigs, 4 calves, 100 bags quartz, 60 hides, 102 bales wool, 13 bags wool, 4 bales leather, 3 packages skins, 131 bags bark, 130 pieces timber, 27 shafts, 62 felloes, 63 yokes, and sundries.

Rosedale (s.), from Nambucca and Port Macquarie: 1210 bags maize, 2 bags bones, 7 bags oysters, 23 bags potatoes, 1 bale wool, 30 cases eggs, 26 coops poultry, 61 hides, 1 keg butter, 128 pigs, 27 bags antimony, 1000ft. cedar, 11 cases oranges, and sundries.

EXPORTS.—December 24.

Tasmania (s.), for Auckland: 30 bars iron, 20 cases milk, 2 trunks boots, 40 packages machinery, 15 bales woolpacks, 30 hogsheads syrup, 10 cases icing sugar, 40 boxes clothes, 24 pairs shafts, 11 packages cottons, 14 packages bottles, 24 sacks arrowroot, 141 tubes, 20 packages paints, 20 bales herbs, 5 cases drugs, 3 drums soda, 2 packages wire rope, 3 packages drapery, 75 bags tapioca, 23 bags pepper, 117 bags bottles, 25 packages machines, 6 casks zinc, 640 rails, 35 boxes plants, 50 cases dates, 10 bags hides, 3 chests tea, packages paper, 8 cases periodicals, 856 sacks manure, 3930 sacks bones, 1977 sacks bonedust, 160 cases fruit, 430 sacks salt, 109 packages merchandise, and sundries.

Tambo (s.), for Hobart: 50 doors, 2 cases woollens, 3 packages hardware, 8 cases leather, 7 bundles bags, 14 cases acid, 2 packages wire rope, 27 cases meats, 9 packages boots, 10 crates fruit cases, 1 stove, 3 packages ore bags, 48 cases galvanised iron, 41 cases nails, 1 case gloves, 8 firebricks, 21 stoves, 49 packages merchandise, and sundries.

Thermopylæ (s.), for London: 2151 bales wool, 4066 bags ore, 5132 ingots tin, 55 bales skins, 355 ingots copper, 4040 carcases mutton, 757 carcases lamb, 8 packages seeds, 9 cases eggs, 4600 cases meats, 3 cases fruit, 5 cases oil, 12 cases blinds, 26 casks arrowroot, 14 cases sauce, and sundries.

Gulf of Mexico (s.), for Hamburg: 7329 bales wool, 60 bales leather, 2436 bags ore, 77 bags hides, 122 cases wax and honey, 1 case machinery, 8 cases drapery, 25 drums glycerine, and sundries.

Custom-house.—Entered outward: December 24, Trafalgar, ship, 1429 tons, Captain Sangster, for London; Solingen (s.), 2874 tons, Captain N. Trulsen, for Hamburg; Kellie (s.), 501 tons, Captain H. J. Johnson, for Townsville, via Catherine Hill Bay; Talune (s.), 2020 tons, Captain E. Phillips, for Wellington.

The Westmeath will move from Moore's Wharf to the stream on Friday.

The Star of Victoria will berth at Moore's Wharf on arrival.

The Birtha was yesterday towed from Goodlet and Smith's Wharf to the stream; and the Albany from the stream to Hoffnung's Wharf.

The Tarawera arrived at Auckland from Sydney on Monday last. The Oonah arrived at Hobart on Monday afternoon, and left for Sydney yesterday.

Captain E. Farrell reports that the Electra crossed the Manning bar at 1.30 p.m. on 23rd December, and arrived in port at 5 a.m. on 24th December, having experienced fresh S.S.E. wind and moderate sea.

The Barcoo yesterday came off Mort's Slip after receiving a general overhaul.

H.M.S. Waterwitch was yesterday floated into Jubilee Dock for an overhaul.

The Inverlochy is in Mort's Dock. The Airlie to follow.

Captain Hersee reports that the Bega left Bateman's Bay at 0.30 p.m. on the 23rd, called at Ulladulla, and arrived at the company's wharf at 4.50 a.m. on the 24th.

Captain Colvin, of the Wollumbin, reports having left Byron Bay at 11 p.m. on the 20th, Coff's Harbour at 4 p.m. on the 21st, passed Smoky Cape at 10 p.m. on the 22nd, Seal Rocks at 2 p.m. on the 23rd, and arrived in Sydney on the 26th. Experienced strong southerly gale to Smoky Cape and fresh easterly.

Captain Paulsen reports that the Rosedale crossed out of the Nambucca at 12.30 p.m. on the 21st, arriving at Port Macquarie at 10 p.m. the same day, left again at 4 p.m. the 22nd, and entered the Heads at 6 a.m. on the 24th. Experienced a heavy southerly breeze, with rain and rough sea, to Seal Rocks; from thence to arrival moderate S.E. winds and fine weather.

The P. and O. Company's Canton, which left here on 9th November, arrived at Suez on the 23rd instant.

The master of the J. C. Taylor reports speaking on last Monday week the Rock Lily, bound from Sydney to New Guinea.

THE MAIL STEAMERS.

The R.M.S. Austral, hence 18th November, arrived at Suez on the 22nd December.

The R.M.S. Cuzco, hence 4th November, arrived at Plymouth on the 21st December.

The Armand Behic, from Sydney 27th ultimo, left Aden on the 27th instant at 7 p.m.

The German mail steamer Oldenburg left Colombo on the 22nd outward.

The R.M.S. India, from Brisbane 16th November, left Aden on the 23rd homeward.

THE LORD ROSEBERY.

After a 75 days' passage the Lord Rosebery, from Rio, yesterday turned up. She had been heard of off the coast from time to time, and had been driven north of the port in the late gales. She comes to Messrs. A. M'Arthur and Co.

ORIENT LINE EXCURSIONS.

The Orient Company send a programme of a yachting cruise of the company's steamer Lusitania to Norwegian waters. The vessel is to leave London on 21st July, 1896, and passengers will be able to view the total eclipse of the sun at Vadso, Lapland, on 9th August, which has been selected by astronomers as a specially-favourable position for observing the eclipse. The company has also issued a programme of pleasure cruises of the Lusitania and Garonne to the West India Islands and to the Mediterranean.

TELEGRAPHIC SHIPPING NEWS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

BRISBANE.—December 24: The Aramac (s.) arrived at Townsville to-day from the south. The Burwah (s.), from Rockhampton, reached Maryborough to-day. The Derwent (s.) left to-day for Rockhampton. The Eurimbla (s.) left for south to-day. The Franklin (s.) left for south to-day. The Guthrie (s.), from Hongkong, left Cooktown to-day for Sydney. The Maranoa (s.) arrived at Bowen from Cooktown to-day. The Merrie England (s.) left Cooktown for Brisbane to-day. The Peregrine (s.) left for the south to-day. The South Australian left Townsville to-day for Cairns. The Tyrian (s.) left to-day for Townsville. The Yaralla (s.) arrived at Maryborough to-day from Bundaberg.

YAMBA.—Arrival: December 24, Yolande, schooner, from New Zealand. Departure: December 24, Kallatina (s.), for Sydney.

NEWCASTLE.—Arrivals: December 24, Fortuna, barque, from Port Pirie; Gio Batta Beverino, barque, from Brisbane; Vincent, ship, from Limerick; Timaru (s.), Pukaki (s.), Wyoming (s.), Western (s.), Era (s.), Burrumbeet (s.), Lubra (s.), Newcastle (s.), Civility, Alice (s.), Taluna (s.), Glenfinlas, ship, from Sydney. Departures: December 24, Glaucus (s.), for Melbourne, with 1800 tons coal; Williams (s.), for Port Stephens; Concordia, barque, for Tal Tal, with 1900 tons coal; Hawaiian Isles, ship, for San Francisco, with 3222 tons coal. Departures: December 24, Pukaki (s.), for Launceston, via Sydney, with 800 tons coal; Wyoming (s.), for the Richmond; Timaru (s.), Thetis (s.), Western (s.), Lubra (s.), Civility (s.), Alice (s.), Newcastle (s.), Vailele, Countess of Errol, Jones Brothers, Albatross, Garron, Advance, schooners, Fanny Fisher, Southern Belle, barques, Minora, brig, for Sydney.

MELBOURNE.—Arrivals: December 24, Coogee (s.), from Launceston; Urmston Grange (s.), from Newport; Alagonia (s.), from Newcastle. Departures: Waihora (s.), for New Zealand, via Hobart; Loura (s.), for Sydney and Queensland ports; Boeswing (s.), for Port Kembla; Coogee (s.), for Launceston; Warrigal (s.), for London; Bellinger (s.), for Strahan. The ship Loch Tay cleared the Heads to-day for Dunkirk.

CAPE BORDA.—Passed: December 24, Orient, R.M.S., at 7.35 a.m., inward from London.

ADELAIDE.—Arrivals: December 23, Flinders (s.), from Esperance Bay. December 24, Karawera (s.), from Newcastle; Gabo (s.), from Western Australia; Adelaide (s.), from Western Australia; Innamincka (s.), from Melbourne; Orient, R.M.S., from London. Departures: December 23, Adelaide (s.), for Melbourne; Fram (s.), for Western Australia.

(FROM THE BOARD AT THE TELEGRAPH OFFICE.)

RICHMOND RIVER HEADS.—Departure: December 24, Tomki at 2.15 p.m.

BYRON BAY.—Departure: December 23, Chindera (s.) at 6 p.m., for Sydney.

CLARENCE HEADS.—Arrival: December 24, Yelonde, schooner, at 8.4 a.m., from New Zealand. Departure: December 24, Kallatina at 6.40 a.m.

TRIAL BAY.—December 24, Petrel, ketch, still at anchor in bay.

CAPE HAWKE.—Departure: December 24, Ability, ketch, and Favourite, schooner, at 1 p.m.

SEAL ROCKS.—Passed: December 24, Loch Doon, barque, at 1.30 p.m., south.

PORT STEPHENS.—Passed: December 24, City of Grafton (s.) at 12.45 p.m., north; a tug with black funnel and with barque in tow passed at 6.45 p.m., south; ketch, like Dewdrop, and schooner Jane left Nelson's Bay at 5.10 p.m.

PORT MACQUARIE.—Departures: December 24, Mary Davis, ketch, and Betsy, ketch, at 11.30 a.m., for Sydney. Passed: Kallatina at 6.20 p.m., south.

BELLAMBI.—Arrivals: December 24, Herga (s.) at 4.30 a.m., and Egmont (s.), at 5 a.m., from Sydney. Departure: December 24, Ermont (s.), at 8 a.m., for Sydney.

BARRANJOEY.—Arrivals: December 24, Premier (Government steamer) at 6 p.m., Meteor (yacht) at 6.30 p.m.

BERMAGUI SOUTH.—Arrival: December 23, Allowrie (s.) at 8.15 p.m., from Sydney. Departure: December 23, Allowrie (s.) at 9.10 p.m., for Tathra.

MORUYA HEADS.—Arrival: December 24, Murray at 5 p.m., off bar.

WOLLONGONG.—Arrivals: December 24, Captain Cook (s.) at 4 a.m., Aldinga (s.) at 9.30 a.m., Palmerston (s.) at 4.30 p.m., all from Sydney. Departures: December 24, Captain Cook (s.) at 8.40 a.m., and Aldinga (s.) at 3.40 p.m., for Sydney.

CROOKHAVEN HEADS.—Arrival: December 24, Coomonderry (s.) at 8.15 a.m., from Sydney.

JERVIS BAY.—Passed: December 24, Murray (s.) at 11.45 a.m., south.

RAMSGATE (Vic.).—Departure: December 24, Fairy Rock, brig, at 6 a.m.

LOW HEAD (Tas.).—Arrival: December 24, Pateena (s.) at 11.5 a.m., from Melbourne.

WILSON'S PROMONTORY.—Passed inwards: December 24, barque and topsail schooner at 5.40 a.m., Queenscliff (s.) at 4.25 p.m. Passed outward: December 24, ketch, painted slate colour, and Omba (s.) at 11.55 a.m.; paddle steamer, black funnel, two white bands, apparently bound for Port Arthur.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS.

Sydney Observatory, Tuesday.

Average for 37 years from 1st January to 30th November, 47·480.

Total rainfall from 1st January, 1895, to 24th December, 30·214.

Sydney standard barometer at 9 a.m., 30·044.

STATE OF BAROMETERS AT 9 A.M.

Eucla, 30·04; Streaky Bay, 29·89; Adelaide, 29·90; Robe, 29·94; Portland, 29·92; Melbourne, 29·86; Wilson's Promontory, 29·76; Gabo Island, 29·86; Cape St. George, 30·06; Sydney, 30·04; Newcastle, 30·05; Port Macquarie, 30·05; Clarence Heads, 29·97; Brisbane, 29·93; Rockhampton, 29·89; Mackay, 29·83; Cooktown, 29·82.

SYNOPSIS ISSUED AT 9 A.M. BY MR. H. C. RUSSELL, GOVERNMENT ASTRONOMER.

New South Wales.—Generally fine and warm, but still unsettled on northern coast and high lands.

Victoria and Straits.—Fine and hot generally.

South Australia.—Generally fine and clear.

Queensland.—Cloudy generally.

Central and Northern Australia.—Fine and hot generally.

Tasmania.—Fine but more or less cloudy generally.

New Zealand.—Generally fine and clear.

New Caledonia.—Fine but cloudy generally.

RAIN HAS FALLEN IN THE PREVIOUS 24 HOURS TO 9 A.M.

New South Wales.—Light to heavy on northern coast and high lands. Armidale, 0·03; Camden Haven, 0·30; Casino, 0·51; Cassilis, 0·11; Clarence, 1·05; Grafton, 1·20; Katoomba, 0·17; Lismore, 0·65; Maitland, 0·10; Manning Heads, 1·10; Mount Victoria, 0·07; Murrurundi, 0·05; Muswellbrook, 0·84; Newcastle, 0·65; Port Macquarie, 0·07; Port Stephens, 0·65; Scone, 0·70; Singleton, 0·48; Sydney, 0·07; Tabulam, 0·13; Taree, 0·15; Tenterfield, 0·12; Uralla, 0·05.

Queensland.—Light to heavy in eastern districts generally, with thunderstorms. Bowen, 0·75; Cape Moreton, 0·46; Clermont, 0·11; Cooktown, 0·12; Gladstone, 0·02; Goondiwindi, 0·28; Mackay, 0·09; Mitchell, 0·05; Nobo, 0·47; Rockhampton, 0·60; Roma, 0·11; Stanthorpe, 0·17; Townsville, 1·15.

RIVER REPORTS AT 9 A.M.

Albury, 1ft. 8in.; Balranald, 10in.; Bingara, 10in.; Bourke, 2ft. 9in., rising; Brewarrina, 7in., rising; Euabalong, 1ft. 6in., rising; Euston, 9ft. 3in.; Forbes, 2ft. 2in.; Gooloogong, 6ft. 7in., rising; Gundagai, 3ft.; Hay, 2ft. 8in.; Hillston, 3ft. 2in., falling; Louth, 1ft. 3in., rising; Manilla, not received; Menindie, 5ft. 9in.; Mogil Mogil, 18ft. 4in.; Mungundi, 13ft., falling; Toorale, 5ft. 11½in.; Tilpa, 1ft., falling; Tocumwal, 5ft. 8in.; Wagga Wagga, 2ft. 3in.; Wentworth, 6ft. 4in.; Wilcannia, 3ft. 2in., falling; Yetman, 2ft., falling; Barwon River at Walgett, 15ft., rising; Namoi River at Walgett, 8ft. 4in., rising; Goondiwindi, low.

3 P.M. OBSERVATIONS.

Rain was falling at Ballina, Bellinger Heads, Clarence River, West Kempsey, Grafton, Lismore, Woolgoolga, Macleay, Maitland, Nambucca, Quirindi.

COASTAL WEATHER REPORTS AT 9 P.M.

Tweed Heads, S.E., fresh, fine, sea heavy, break on bar; Byron Bay, S.E., light, like rain, sea smooth; Ballina, E.N.E., cloudy, sea smooth; Clarence Heads, calm, cloudy, sea smooth; Woolgoolga, N.E., light, cloudy, sea smooth; Bellinger Heads, N.E., light, cloudy, sea moderate; Nambucca Heads, calm, cloudy, sea moderate; Macleay Heads, N.N.E., cloudy, sea smooth; Port Macquarie, N.E., light, fine, sea moderate; Manning Heads, calm, dull, sea moderate; Seal Rocks, N.E., light, fine, sea moderate; Port Stephens, N.E., fresh, fine, sea moderate; Newcastle, E.N.E., fresh, fine, sea smooth; Lake Macquarie Heads, N.E., fresh, fine, sea smooth; Catherine Hill Bay, N.E., fresh, fine, sea smooth; Barranjoey, N.E., fresh, fine, sea smooth; South Head, N.E., light, fine, sea smooth; Wollongong, E., fresh, fine, sea moderate; Kiama, N.W., moderate, fine, sea moderate; Crookhaven Heads, N.E., strong, hazy, sea moderate; Jervis Bay, N.E., strong, fine, sea moderate; Ulladulla, N.E., light, fine, sea moderate; Bateman's Bay, N.E., fresh, fine, sea smooth; Moruya, N.E., fresh, fine, sea smooth; Eden, calm, cloudy, sea smooth; Green Cape, N., light, hazy, sea slight; Gabo Island, N.E., fresh, smoky, hazy, sea moderate.

FORECAST ISSUED AT 4 P.M.

New South Wales.—N.E. winds on the coast; northerly inland, changing to south, probably on Wednesday evening; weather fine and hot, becoming cooler, with southerly winds; some thunderstorms probable.—H. C. RUSSELL.

SPECIAL FORECASTS FOR AUSTRALASIA AND OCEANA, BY MR. CLEMENT L. WRAGGE.

Western Australia.—Fine, with scattered clouds and isolated showers in parts.

Northern Territory.—Cloudy over the greater part, with some rain and squalls from S.E.

South Australia.—Generally fine, with some clouds; some showers in the S. and S.E.

Queensland.—Although times of fine weather will be noted, further rain, chiefly in connection with thunderstorms, likely; strong S.E. to N.E. winds; sea moderate to fresh.

New South Wales.—More rain on the coast and high lands, but matters temporarily improved; patches of rough sea.

Victoria.—Cloudy and gloomy, with some showers; strong winds and patches of rough sea.

New Zealand.—Fine, but shortly stormy.

New Caledonia.—Cloudy and showery.

ASTRONOMICAL MEMORANDA FOR DECEMBER 25.

Sun rises at 4.44, sets at 7.6; Moon, 12.57 p.m., —; Mercury, 4.54 a.m., 7.23 p.m.; Venus, 2.6 a.m., 5.30 p.m.; Mars, 3.6 a.m., 5.14 p.m.; Jupiter, 9.12 p.m., 7.39 a.m.; Saturn, 1.52 a.m., 3.17 p.m.

Full Moon, 2nd; New Moon, 16th.

High water at Fort Denison, 1.29 a.m., 1.54 p.m.

THE MAILS.

THIS DAY.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, QUEENSLAND } 9 a.m.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 9 a.m.

THURSDAY.

VALPARAISO, 9 a.m.
LAUNCESTON and HOBART, 9 a.m.

FRIDAY.

CLYDE RIVER, 9 a.m.
LAUNCESTON, via EDEN, 11 a.m.
MANNING RIVER, 1 p.m.
WELLINGTON, &c., N.Z., 2 p.m.
PORT MACQUARIE and BELLINGER RIVER, 3 p.m.
RICHMOND RIVER, 7 p.m.
WOOLGOOLGA, 8 p.m.
MACLEAY RIVER, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY.

HOBART and LAUNCESTON, 11 a.m.
MELBOURNE and ADELAIDE, noon.
BRISBANE, 1 p.m.
CLARENCE RIVER, 8 p.m.

MONDAY.

INDIA and EUROPE, 2.30 p.m.
UNITED KINGDOM, 3 p.m.
R.M.S. OCEANA (letters addressed to persons on board), 3 p.m.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 4 p.m.
COFF'S HARBOUR and BYRON BAY, 8 p.m.
NOUMEA, FIJI, and TONGA, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY.

UNITED KINGDOM and EUROPE, SEYCHELLES, MAURITIUS, and MADAGASCAR, 3 p.m.

PARCEL MAIL.

Parcels addressed to the United Kingdom, Egypt, and certain foreign countries via the United Kingdom, will be received at the Parcels Office, 151 Castlereagh-street, for transmission per Orient Company's steamer Oroya, up to 10.30 a.m. on MONDAY, the 30th December. Parcels must not be posted in a letter-box, but must be taken to the Parcels Office, where the necessary declaration as to their contents and value must be signed. Parcels addressed to Fiji and Canada will be received at the Parcels Office for transmission per C.-A. steamer Miowera up to 10.30 a.m. on SATURDAY, 18th January. Parcels addressed to Germany will also be received at the Parcels Office for transmission per German steamer Prinz-Regent Luitpold up to 1.30 p.m. on MONDAY, the 30th December.

Special Advertisements.

THE AUSTRALASIAN CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

Magnificent Coloured Supplement, entitled THE MOURNERS.

This will be the best work of its kind issued in Australasia.

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To provide space for the special articles and beautiful Illustrations, the Australasian will be enlarged by EIGHT PAGES, beyond its ordinary issue.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28.

THE SYDNEY MAIL.

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A JOURNAL OF NEWS, POLITICS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, MUSIC, AGRICULTURE, AND SPORT.

THE PRESENT WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE SYDNEY MAIL CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING AMONGST OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS:—

THE MILITARY TATTOO AT THE VICTORIA BARRACKS.

PORTRAIT OF ALDERMAN I. E. IVES, MAYOR-ELECT OF SYDNEY.

PORTRAIT OF MRS. I. E. IVES, MAYORESS OF SYDNEY, 1896.

CHRISTMAS TIME IN ENGLAND.

THE WATER SUPPLY OF OLD SYDNEY.

A MILLIONAIRE'S MARRIAGE: PORTRAIT OF THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH. PORTRAIT OF MISS CONSUELO VANDERBILT.

THE SEARLE MONUMENT.

THE STEAMSHIP PEREGRINE.

VOLUNTEER OFFICERS' LONG SERVICE MEDAL.

CHRISTMAS TIME:—HERE COMES THE PUDDING.

FASHIONS:—EVENING DRESS.

ILLUSTRATION TO THE REV. BARING-GOULD'S NEW STORY, "THE BROOM SQUIRE."

AND OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS.

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The series of descriptive illustrated articles on the leading and most popular Sports and Pastimes of the day, giving practical instructions in the same, are continued this week.

The subject of the present week's article:

THE ART OF SCULLING, by "TRIDENT."

ILLUSTRATED BY PHOTOS SPECIALLY TAKEN FOR THE SYDNEY MAIL.

ADVERTISERS IN THIS NEWSPAPER IN THE WESTERN SUBURBS are informed that ADVERTISEMENTS may be SENT THROUGH the TELEPHONE at the following S. M. Herald Agencies:—Mrs. GARDINER, 255 King-street, Newtown; and at the Bridge, Newtown. Mr. G. WATSON, Liverpool-road; or at Herculesstreet Branch, Ashfield. Messrs. GIVINS BROS., 205 King-street, Newtown.

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MR. EDWARD READING, DENTIST, 197 Elizabeth-st., Hyde Park.

DR. ODILLO MAHER HAS RETURNED FROM Europe and resumed practice. 20 College-st.

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TO-DAY'S PAPER.

NEWS.

	Page		Page
Amusements	6	Locomotives for Western Australia	5
Ashantee War	5	Monetary and Commercial	7
A Fatal Accident	5	Mining Intelligence	7
A Fatal Fire	5	Meat and Milk Supply	4
Accident to the Western Mail	5	Midland Railway Arbitration Case	5
British Guiana	5	New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Co., Limited	5
Cablegrams	5	New Governor of Queensland	5
Country News	5	National Bank of New Zealand	5
Christmas	4	News of the Day	4
Christmas Eve in Sydney	5	Police	3
Chaffey Brothers, Limited	5	Pastoral Intelligence	6
Death of M. Stepniak	5	Shipping	4
Death of the Duke of Leeds	5	Shipping Reports	8
Farmers' Loan and Agency Co., Limited	4	Sporting Intelligence	6
Fatality at Bowral	5	South Polar Regions	5
Great Britain and the United States	4	Two New Rivers Discovered	5
Intercolonial News	5	University of Sydney	6
Intercolonial Cricket Match	6	Wool Market	7
Judge Backhouse and Mr. Heydon	6	Western Australian Goldfields	5
Leaders, &c.	4		
London Produce Market	5		
Lord Mayor's Day in London	5		

ADVERTISEMENTS.

	Page		Page
Amusements	2, 8	Hotels	8
Apartments, Board and Residence	8	Legal Notices	1
Auction Sales	6	Lost and Found	1
Births, Marriages, Deaths	1	Machinery	8
Books, Publications, &c.	8	Meetings	8
Building Materials	1	Medical, Chemicals, &c.	8
Business Announcements	8	Military Notices	1
Business for Sale	8	Miscellaneous	1
Educational	8	Musical Instruments	8
Florists	1	Personal	1
For Sale	1	Professions, Trades, &c.—Wanted	1
Funerals	1	Public Notices	8
Furniture, &c.	8	Religious Announcements	8
General Merchandise	7	Servants Wanted	1
Government Railways	7	Shipping Announcements	1
Horses and Vehicles	1	Situations Wanted	1
Horticultural, Farming, &c.	8	Stock, Shares, and Money	8
Houses and Land for Sale	8	Tenders	1
Houses, Land, &c., Wanted	8	To Let—Houses, &c.	8
		Wanted to Purchase	8

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Attention is respectfully directed to the following Rules:—

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion in this journal must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected manuscripts, nor to insert letters duplicates of which are sent to other newspapers.

All communications intended for the news or correspondence columns should be addressed to THE EDITOR.

All letters and communications on business should be addressed to JOHN FAIRFAX AND SONS.

Advertisements should reach this office not later than 9 p.m., and should indicate in the first line under what heading they are intended to appear.

While every care is exercised to secure the insertion and classification of advertisements, the proprietors do not accept any responsibility in reference thereto; and they reserve to themselves the right of withholding from publication any advertisement they may deem to be objectionable, although it may have been received in the ordinary course of business.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

During the holiday time the *Sydney Morning Herald* can be posted direct from this office to persons desirous of having it sent to them to any part of this colony at the rate of 6d per week, or Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, New Zealand, or Tasmania at 9d per week.

The Sydney Morning Herald.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1895.

Sermons were preached in many of the churches in the United States on Sunday, condemning President Cleveland's extension of the Monroe doctrine.

At the conclusion of a sermon in a church at Plymouth, Massachusetts, the congregation gave cheers for peace, and in many other churches motions were passed in favour of arbitration.

President Cleveland's Message to Congress recommending that measures should be taken amongst other reasons to avert the danger of depletion of the gold reserves in the Treasury has re-created the old party division in Congress on the currency question.

The recent disastrous panic upon the New York Stock Exchange is subsiding, and the securities which had such a severe fall are advancing in value.

It is reported that President Cleveland is issuing 100,000,000dol. worth of gold bonds to prevent the depletion of the gold reserves in the Treasury.

The feeling in England concerning the difficulty with the United States is calm.

In response to articles published by the *New York World*, asking for words of peace and goodfellowship, several English Bishops have cabled messages of peace.

Lord Rosebery states that war between two mighty nations over such a dispute as that in regard to Venezuela would be the greatest crime recorded.

The death is announced of the Duke of Leeds at the age of 67 years.

Lord Lamington, the new Governor of Queensland, will sail for Brisbane by the B. I. Company's s.s. India on 5th February.

Nothing is doing in the Bradford wool market, and holders are not anxious to sell.

The Western Australian Government has accepted the tender of Messrs. Neilson and Co., of Glasgow, for 10 railway engines, which are to be shipped within six months.

M. Sergius Michael Dragomanoff Stepniak, the Russian patriot and exile, has been killed by a train at Chiswick, near London.

It is reported that the committee of the New York Yacht Club has considered the statements made recently by the Earl of Dunraven in regard to the measurement of the yacht Defender in the late contest for the America Cup, and has decided that the statements are not correct.

Sir Augustus Hemming, K.C.M.G., has been appointed Governor of British Guiana.

Mr. C. E. Borchgrevink, a member of the last expedition to the South Polar regions, is arranging for whalers bound for the South Seas to land 12 scientists at Cape Adair, Victoria Land.

These associates purpose spending a year in exploring the interior of Victoria Land.

The Colonial Secretary of Queensland has received a telegram from the Hon. John Douglas reporting the discovery of two large rivers, which are likely to prove of considerable importance in the development of Cape York Peninsula, Northern Queensland.

They are said to surpass the Batavia River in utility.

At the closing meeting of the Melbourne Stock Exchange yesterday it was resolved to send telegrams to the London and New York Stock Exchanges, wishing them "Peace and goodwill."

The barque Durisdeer, which was stranded at Newcastle early on Monday morning, is rapidly going to pieces.

It has been reported at Coolgardie that a prospector had been murdered by natives about 40 miles south of Kurnalpie.

Mr. Walter Douglas, cyclist, who went on a trip to the Lake Darlot country, north of Coolgardie, is reported to be missing. His bicycle has been found on the road. He is said to be a native of Goulburn.

A newly-married couple named Woodward have been drowned while bathing in a creek near Auckland, New Zealand.

In the New Zealand Midland Railway arbitration case the award was delivered yesterday.

The costs are marked at £6800, of which £2100 goes to Mr. Blake, the umpire.

The award itself is in a sealed envelope, which will not be lifted till after the holidays.

An interim dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, has been declared by the National Bank of New Zealand.

Early yesterday morning the Star and Garter Hotel and thirteen other buildings at Coromandel, New Zealand, were destroyed by fire. The loss amounted to about £6000, the insurances being about £2000.

Two human bodies were found amongst the debris of the hotel, and it is feared that other lives have been lost.

The tick plague is reported to be carrying off a large number of stock in the Cooktown district, Queensland.

It is understood that Sir Henry Parkes is not at present inclined to accept the proposed Parliamentary grant.

The auditors of Chaffey Brothers, Limited, have decided to authorise the liquidators to continue cultivation at Mildura and irrigation at Renmark for a month, pending reports on the prospect of a settlement.

Last night the Western mail train left the rails at Springwood, the engine running off the line and taking three carriages with it.

At Darling Harbour yesterday 1051 bales of wool were manifested, 988 bales arrived coastwise; and 99 bales were received by rail at Newcastle on Monday.

In the Stock and Share market yesterday there was only one transaction reported in investment stocks, but the market closed firm.

The only department of the Import market in which there was activity yesterday was the liquor trade, in which a good deal was done.

Yesterday the Mining market closed for the holidays, so far as the meetings of the Sydney Stock Exchange are concerned. There was not much business done, but a hopeful feeling seemed to prevail.

The Customs revenue received yesterday amounted to £5074. Towards this the 10 per cent. ad valorem duty contributed £59 and the 15 per cent. duty £11.

CADBURY'S COCOA.
The popular beverage for all seasons.—[ADVT.]

There is a tendency this year to make some slight innovations on what has hitherto been the established order of celebrating Christmas Day. The desire to widen the circle of amusements is natural enough. Christmas Day has been distinguished by religious services, by family reunions, and by sacred concerts and the rendering of oratorios instead of the usual evening entertainments. There are many who for different reasons neither regard nor appreciate the religious sacredness of the day. There are some who have no part in the numerous and happy family reunions that will be held either at home or out of doors in the city. There are always those who take but a languid interest in any festivity that does not promise some excitement. The wish, therefore, for a wider range of amusements is easily understood. But it is doubtful whether the community would gain anything from making a change in the character of Christmas Day. A large portion of the people, a larger part than is to be found within the walls of the churches, regard it as sacred, and their opinions and feelings are entitled to consideration. Nor can there be any advantage in weakening the custom of holding family reunions by filling the day with public games or sports. This is a feature of the season which not only gives pleasure, but which commends itself also to the reason. Least of all is there any need for making a change when so many days in the year and so many half-holidays are available for all manner of legitimate sports and pastimes. It might, indeed, be argued that it is advisable, if only for the sake of variety, to have one quiet festival, to keep one day of tranquil relaxation, to maintain, in a word, the unique character of Christmas.

But the outward observances of the day are the least important of the things with which it is fraught. From the Archbishop of Canterbury to Count TOLSTOI, leaders of every school in many countries proclaim that its real meaning is to teach kindness between man and man, to give those who have means an opportunity of trying to benefit in some way their less fortunate fellows. Of course, Christmas cannot check for a moment the movement of nations or the rancour of classes, if that is once inflamed. It is the cheapest and poorest sort of satire to contrast all the private expressions of goodwill with the existence of military armaments and the too frequent use of warlike menaces. The day of national reunions is far off. But this season does give to every individual the chance of showing some kindness, and of considering his duties to those around him. The first idea that occurs to the majority probably is that everyone ought to have a substantial Christmas dinner, and that some treat should be given to the children, even of the poorest, by which they can mark and remember the occasion. This is one of the oldest English customs. It was managed more picturesquely perhaps when the whole village could join together and enjoy eating and drinking. The wish still remains that no household should be stinted or overlooked. And as far as there is a desire that only for one brief season of the year no one should feel the pangs of hunger or the solitude of sorrow, it is good. It is not altogether good, however, if it means that the law or precept of kindness is to be generally disregarded and forgotten during the long course of the twelve months. The responsibilities of the richer to the poorer, the relations between these two classes, require more consideration than mere Christmas friendliness.

It is noteworthy that Australians are everywhere inclined to be generous. The support given to all charitable institutions, and to the multitude of subscription lists and fairs and bazaars which are intended to provide money for any definite practical object, is sufficient to prove this. Hundreds of kindly acts are done throughout the country of which no record can be made. But is there not a tendency to rely too much upon institutions? The question has often been asked whether the large establishments that are now maintained in most civilised countries do not check the flow of private benevolence. Through illness or misfortune a family is ruined. Its members drift towards the city, and then they are left to the aid of societies, if they are lucky enough to find a society that can be of real assistance to them. Any private benevolence that is shown them is likely to be fitful and uncertain. Would it not be as well if occasionally the case of such persons were taken up by their neighbours in the districts where they are known? It will be said that in cases of genuine distress neighbours are almost always ready to render some assistance. But this help is temporary. It consists in giving food, or, perhaps, a trifle of money. It is a much rarer thing to hear of the families who are fairly well-to-do trying to make or find work for the unfortunate, even if it be only for a brief time and the job hardly worth wages. This would be encouragement to the poor to seek for work where they are known. We do not say that any household should take upon itself the permanent responsibility of providing for some poor family. But there are many people, fairly endowed with the world's goods, who could easily find some employment for others in depressed times. And even although this help might only be temporary, it would be at least in the true spirit of kindness, which seeks to give without betraying any ostentation of charity.

If the Christmas celebrations and expressions of goodwill have any real meaning at all, everyone must feel that he owes some duty, some responsibility, to those who are hurt, or who have broken down in the struggle of life. Whatever public benevolence may do, it does not alter this fact. It cannot, indeed, overtake half the cases in which a timely succour may be of the utmost value. If it were large enough to practise all the beneficence which is necessary in the community, it would not remove the duty of private benevolence and kindliness. Large societies would often fail in producing the good results which follow, not upon the gift of money or the providing of labour alone, but upon the exhibition of personal sympathy and the utterance of kindly words which are known to be felt and meant on both sides. The want of a genuine personal feeling between employers and employed has been deplored by one or two English poets. There will be no pleasant relief for poverty unless that sympathy for the poor which is natural to right-thinking minds and which is only satisfied by taking a personal interest in them is maintained. It is not beneficence, not giving on a large scale, not charity in the sense in which the word is often used, that is the virtue suggested by the great anniversary of the Christian year, but kindliness and personal sympathy. It is possible to run to excess in charitable organisations, as when recently the Scottish churches competed to give alms in one district of a city. There can hardly be too much of a kindly feeling shown to the poor by their more fortunate neighbours who know their circumstances and whose duty it is to consider them. This, after all, is the most important suggestion which Christmas has brought to the world.

CALLERS AT THE TREASURY.—Yesterday morning Sir George Dibbs and Mr. John See, M.L.A., called at the Treasury and had an interview with the Premier, Mr. G. H. Reid.

THE GRANT TO SIR HENRY PARKES.—It is understood that Sir Henry Parkes is not at present inclined to accept the proposed Parliamentary grant. In any case, however, the matter will be brought under the consideration of the House early next session, and the idea now is that the grant should take the form of an annual vote instead of a lump sum. This, it is believed, will be the simplest way of dealing with the matter, and it will be free from the objections urged against the other proposals.

SEA-TOWING IN THE LATE GALES.—Some of the tugboat masters have had lively times in the last southerly blow. Last night the owner of the Sterling, the tug that eventually got hold of the ship Lord Rosebery, said that his vessel since leaving Newcastle had seen some pretty rough weather. When the Sterling put out the wind was blowing a moderate gale from the south, there was a heavy sea on the bar, and they saw several vessels in tow and came across the ship Lord Rosebery off Bird Island, bound to Sydney. They stood by her on Saturday night, hoping that the weather would moderate, but their hopes were in vain, for on Sunday the wind veered round to the south-east and blew at hurricane force. During Sunday night part of one bulwark of the tug was washed away by a tremendous sea and they lost sight of the ship. On Monday at about daylight, with fair weather, they picked her up off Seal Rocks and took her in tow, the wind being still fresh from the S.E., and towed her into port yesterday.

MEETING OF THE UNEMPLOYED.—A meeting of the unemployed was held at the Queen's Statue yesterday afternoon. Mr. Harry Foran gave an address in which he stated that the Government ought to be called upon to find employment for those willing to work. He said that in a day or two he would weed out the loafers, and organise a strong deputation to wait upon the Colonial Secretary with reference to the matter.

THE WENTWORTH IRRIGATION TRUST.—It was mentioned some time ago that the Wentworth Irrigation Trust had been unable to find the necessary funds to carry out the work for which the trust was formed, and that it had been decided that the Government should take it over, the idea being that the work would not only be of a useful character, but would also have a valuable educational effect in regard to the important subject of irrigation. The Government having decided to take it over, the Minister for Mines ordered the Engineer for Water Conservation to submit a report and recommendation in regard to the plant necessary to carry out the intentions of the Wentworth Irrigation Act. As the result of the report tenders were invited, and the Minister has now approved of the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. R. Tulloch and Co. for the engines and pumping plant, at a cost of a little over £2000. The trust controls 10,000 acres of land, but it is not intended in the first instance to deal with more than 1500 acres. The water supply will be pumped from the Murray River.

PRESENTATION TO M. KOWALSKI.—M. Henri Kowalski, who, in addition to his routine round of remunerative work, has earned the esteem of a wide circle by the generous way in which he has bestowed his services upon talented but impecunious students, was yesterday the subject of a handsome address at Pleyel House (Mr. F. Aengenheyster's). More than two score of his pupils assembled to present him with an address, reminding him how cordially appreciated his efforts in the cause of music had ever been, and how glad those present were in their humble way to voice the admiration entertained for him as an eminent pianist and composer throughout the length and breadth of Australia, as well as in the city where he had happily made his home. M. Kowalski replied in a warmly-cordial and felicitous speech, in which he compared himself with a branch of a great tree of musical knowledge, and his young friends with the gracious foliage which hid the bareness of that branch, and in true affection placed it before the world in all its unworthiness, as a fair and fruitful limb. M. Kowalski, who spoke with emotion, was warmly cheered, and then the pupils presented him with a magnificent travelling case, fitted-out with every kind of toilet requisite in solid silver and crystal. Each article was embossed with the French composer's crest and initials. A pleasant ceremony closed with the distribution by the *maestro* of the awards won by his pupils at the recent A.M.A. examinations.

PORTRAITS OF THE VICE-REGAL PARTY.—Mr. J. Hubert Newman, of George-street, has been privileged to take portraits of the Vice-Regal party, with results so entirely satisfactory that he has been appointed photographer to his Excellency the Governor. Undoubtedly the most artistic achievement of the series issued from the Newman Atelier is the group including the entire Vice-Regal party, for the various figures have been so posed that the whole effect is that of a carefully-composed picture rather than of an ordinary photograph. In this picture his Excellency the Governor, Lady Hampden, and family are seated in the foreground, with one daughter and the members of the Vice-Regal staff standing behind. Every portrait is excellent, and the attitudes are not only easy, but just sufficiently contrasted to mark the individuality of each person. Several fine portraits of the Governor, admirably lighted and full of animation, are also issued in the new auto-sepia and Atelier panel series.

RAILWAY TENDERS.—The following tenders have been received by the Railway Commissioners:—Construction of six locomotive boilers, lowest tender, Mort's Dock Company, £2472; for the manufacture and supply of four grip cars for the cable tramway, lowest tender, Messrs. Ritchie Brothers, £580; a number of tenders have also been received for the supply of wire rope for the cable tramways. The Commissioners have also invited tenders for next Monday for the supply of 25 large bogie sheep vans.

ST. PAUL'S, BURWOOD.—The board of nominators for the diocese of Sydney has presented to the Primate the name of Rev. Harry Bryant, B.A., as incumbent of St. Paul's, Burwood, vice Rev. Mr. Bartlett. Mr. Bryant was educated at University College, Durham; was ordained deacon 1890, priest 1891. He was formerly curate at Boarpark, and is at present curate of St. Hilda's, Darlington, Durham.

THE ASHFIELD SHOOTING AFFRAY.—Late last night the authorities at the Western Suburbs Cottage Hospital reported that the condition of the man Eagar, who was shot during a quarrel by Henry Murray at Ashfield, was slightly weaker, the wounded man still remaining in a critical condition. Henry Murray and his wife were brought up at the Glebe Police Court yesterday, the former charged with shooting and wounding Charles Eagar with intent to murder, and the latter with inflicting grievous bodily harm upon John Brown. Both the accused were remanded. The statements made as to the origin of the quarrel during which Eagar was shot are contradictory, Murray and his wife asserting that Brown and Eagar were the aggressors, and the two latter maintaining that they did nothing to cause the quarrel beyond inquiring as to the whereabouts of a certain woman.

FALL DOWN STAIRS.—A wharf labourer named William Smith yesterday fell down stairs at his residence in Woolloomooloo-street and received a number of injuries. He was conveyed to the Sydney Hospital.

A MAN SEIZED WITH A FIT IN MACQUARIE-STREET.—A man named Harry Brooks, who resides in Stanley-street, Sydney, was yesterday found in a fit in Macquarie-street. He was conveyed to the Sydney Hospital, where he recovered.

A YOUTH THROWN FROM A CART.—A runaway horse yesterday dashed into one of Messrs. Starkey and Co.'s carts at the corner of Kent and Market streets, and caused the driver, a youth named Charles Smith, to be thrown from the vehicle. He fell upon his head near the horse's hoofs, and received a serious fracture of the skull. The youth resides in Little Edward-street, Pyrmont.

A MAN INJURED AT SEA.—Alfred Dodds was conveyed to the Sydney Hospital yesterday from Messrs. Dalgety and Co.'s steamer Pericles. He was suffering from a broken leg, which he had received while the vessel was at sea 14 days ago.

POISONED BY SUGAR OF LEAD.—Annie Mosley, 26 years of age, and residing with her husband at 13 Campbell-street, Surry Hills, was taken yesterday evening to the Sydney Hospital. She was treated for poisoning by sugar of lead. Remedial measures were successfully applied.

As will be seen by announcement in our advertising columns, the Railway Commissioners have made special arrangements and concessions for excursionists to the Hawkesbury River during Christmas holidays. On arrival of trains at Hawkesbury Wharf the steamer General Gordon will take passengers for a trip of 36 miles up the river and back.

"Jerusalem," as represented at the Cyclorama, is attracting much attention. It is certainly an extraordinary development of art, and the subject is of universal interest. A special programme of music is announced in our columns for to-day, when special lectures will be given by Mr. B. A. Reeve.

THE secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Association writes to us to say that a large number of influential gentlemen have accepted invitations to the annual dinner of the association, to be held on New Year's Eve. A successful evening is anticipated.

IN another column the Reliance Oil Company offer rewards for captured sharks.

MESSRS. HAYES BROTHERS publish, in a neat and convenient form for the pocket, Mr. G. C. Addison's digest of the mining regulations, with appendices and an index. It is named "The Miner's Manual," and should be an acceptable and safe guide among the intricacies of our difficult mining laws.

WE have received from the Lancashire Insurance Company and the Sun Insurance Company their calendars for 1896.

MESSRS. SCOTT, SEBBALD, and Co., agents and importers, send us their neat framed calendar for 1896.

CHRISTMAS.

If there is anything new under the sun—and we have been assured on high authority that there is nothing—we should all feel grateful to the gifted genius who discovered it and proclaimed it at Christmastime. Especially if it pointed a parable, or a moral, or even a reflection that bore on Christmas Day. But, after all, just as the old authors are the best, so are the old parables, and morals, and reflections—sometimes. Progress is only a relative term and as often as not the cant expression of vague and indefinite changes in the air. Disappointment and dissatisfaction are often responsible for brand-new panaceas and short cuts to the millennium, and all these, as old as the hills probably, are "new." Wherefore the New Democracy, the New Woman, the New Humour, but amongst them all never a new anything; much, indeed, found to be quite ancient and impracticable, but hedged about, nevertheless, with the inalienable rights of prescription and custom. And this, though no daring innovation has attempted to lend it an original tinge, remains our Christmas festival. The fluctuating outsides of the great day have doubtless taken colour from the manners of various ages; the celebration in its essentials remains unaltered. And the essentials are the essential matter to be regarded. It has been found that much the same sort of stuff has often to be recognised—historians group these human traits—under a flowing wig and lace ruffles of the period of Charles I. as under the frock-coat and top hat of that of her Majesty; and Christmas Day of 1695 will be traced by antiquarians of the future with that of 1895. It is true that in the earlier period they ate rosemary puddings and unwisely mixed apples and oranges with the consumption of roast meat. Their robust digestions did not even forbid the assimilation of sweet pastry and home-brewed October. But what of that? A rose by any other name will smell as sweet, and alert inquirers are not to be put off because the fashions of insular cookery have changed—though the French deny it. The modern mince-pie is as a link of antiquity binding the Past to the Present, and carrying it forward (especially for middle-aged persons) vividly into the future. But enough has been said just now to demonstrate that whilst many other things are thought to be new there can be no doubt that Christmas, in its forms of popular celebration, is too old to make any startling changes.

It is strange enough to contemplate how many of the doubts and fears of the day have been preserved. It is equally curious to note how these doubts and fears illustrate a national characteristic seemingly ineradicable. The Saxon genius cannot separate itself from banqueting and high feasting as the symbol of respect to the most sacred of memories. Mortification was never a part of its scheme. The day of all days, the solemn record out of time marking the ascent of the most glorious name in the world's history, the commemoration followed by thousands of human tragedies and sacrifices and heroisms, though these sacrifices and heroisms were offered for the right—what a tinge of more than incongruity there should be that we mark them by sound of revelry and feasting, and a perceptible if honest loosening everywhere of humdrum decorum! And the incongruity has not seemed less because, at the same moment, we are careful to remember the sacred aspect of the day. Whilst the church organs are pealing Handel's glorious strains, and reverent hearts acknowledge their sacred beauty and truth, preparations are going on apace for the most temporal sort of exaltation.

At one time in England there were persons whose business, nay, duty, it was to make others merry at their expense. In England their title was the Lord of Misrule, and in Scotland the Abbot of Unreason, and Acts of Parliament sanctioned the offices. But in the year 1555 these Acts were abolished, and it has been found since that the householder can play the fool in his private capacity just as successfully. If the time-honoured game of "fool plough" has become extinct, the more popular latter-day substitutes of kiss in the ring, blind man's buff, still largely pertain, in spite of all the climatic and antipodean conditions; whilst, if the delirious joy of climbing a greasy pole now palls, we have many offshoots and developments as captivating. And just as the old laws winked on many forms of gaming which were rigorously prohibited the year round, so even in Sydney "totalisator" shops have been known to come into sudden activity at Christmas time. Heredity, whether of blood or manners, is a strangely difficult force to elude. As, for instance, gout and official preferment.

In one respect the mode of welcoming Christmas of former generations is still more strongly marked to-day, and perhaps it forms an ample offset (if it is needed) against the undue conviviality of the season. It was the custom centuries ago for the feudal lords and all people of rank and wealth to keep open house for the poor at Christmas, and the practical Christianity of the custom has been perpetuated. If we do not have groaning boards set in the open for all who list to take their fill of small beer and beef, it is simply because philanthropy has been diverted into different channels and taken on different aspects. But it exists, nevertheless, only it has been agonised and intensified a hundredfold; so that both he who asks and he who waits in the background too proud to own his distress is come at. And one has only to examine Sydney to-day, beneath its outer surface of prosperity and comfort, to realise how wide-spread is the spirit of benevolence, and, alas! how much need there is for it. L.

TO-DAY.

St. Andrew's Cathedral: Holy Communion, 7, 8, and 11 a.m.; preacher, 11 a.m., the Primate; preacher, 7 p.m., Rev. T. Holme. Carols after evening service.

Christ Church, St. Laurence: Holy Communion, 7 a.m. and 8 a.m.; Matins, 10.30 a.m.; Choral Eucharist and Sermon, 11 a.m.; Evensong, Sermon, and Procession, 7 p.m.

St. Paul's, Redfern: Service at 11 a.m., Carol Service at 7.30 p.m.

St. Thomas', Balmain: Services, 8 a.m., 11 a.m., and 7.30 p.m.

Coogee: Open-air Meeting at 3 p.m., near tram shed, under auspices of N.S.W. Evangelical Mission.

Centenary Hall, York-street: United Choral Service at 11; Camp Meeting in Domain, 2.30 p.m.

Glebe Congregational Church: Service, 11 a.m.

St. Simon and St. Jude's Church, Campbell-street, Surry Hills: Services, 11, 7.30. Communion.

Bourke-street Wesleyan Church: Special Service at 11.

Bourke-street Congregational Church: Christmas Service at 11.

Temperance Hall, Pitt-street: Christmas Concert, 8 p.m.

Zoological Gardens, Moore Park: Open all day.

Sailing Races at Clark Island by Sydney Flying Squadron: Lobelia leaves Lime-street wharf 2.35, Bald Rock 2.45, Stephen-street 2.50, Point-street, Pyrmont, 2.55, Darling-street 3 o'clock; and the Agenoria leaves Prince's Stairs, Circular Quay, at 3 and 3.30.

Pony Races: Lillie Bridge, 2.30 p.m.

Trebelli Concert: Centenary Hall, York-street, 8 p.m.

Performance of the "Messiah," at the Town Hall, by the Philharmonic Society, 8 p.m.

Oratorio, "Future Life," at Her Majesty's Theatre, 8 p.m.

Sacred and Classical Concert at the Tivoli Theatre.

Cyclorama, "Jerusalem," opposite Redfern Railway Station: Open 10 a.m. till 5.30 p.m., and from 7.30 p.m.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

SERMONS IN FAVOUR OF PEACE.

THE FINANCIAL MESSAGE.

ISSUE OF GOLD BONDS.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

ADVANCE IN SECURITIES.

FEELING IN ENGLAND.

[BY CABLE.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, Dec. 23.

Sermons were preached in many of the churches in the United States on Sunday condemning President Cleveland's extension of the Monroe doctrine.

At the conclusion of a sermon preached in a church at Plymouth, Massachusetts, the audience gave cheers for peace.

The congregations in many of the other churches passed motions in favour of arbitration.

President Cleveland's message to Congress, recommending that measures should be promptly taken to avert the danger of a depletion of the gold reserves in the Treasury, in order to allay the fears of the people and to reassure the world that the resources of the nation were equal to every obligation, has re-created the old party division in Congress on the currency question.

The faculty of the University of Chicago strongly supports President Cleveland in his action with regard to Venezuela and the Monroe doctrine.

The recent disastrous panic upon the New York Stock Exchange, which followed President Cleveland's bellicose message to Congress in regard to Great Britain's attitude towards Venezuela, is subsiding.

There is a calmer feeling generally, and the securities which had such a severe fall are advancing in value.

It is reported that President Cleveland is issuing 100,000,000dol. worth of gold bonds for the purpose of preventing the depletion of the gold reserves in the Treasury.

The feeling in England concerning the difficulty with the United States is calm.

In response to the articles published by the *New York World*, asking for words of peace and good-fellowship, with the view of soothing the passions and checking the clamour of the Americans, several English Bishops have cabled messages of peace.

Dec. 24.

Lord Rosebery states that war between two mighty nations over such a dispute as that in regard to Venezuela would be the greatest crime recorded.

The special reporter of the *Times* at Washington telegraphs that the members of the House of Representatives consider that it is urgently necessary to provide for an increase in the revenue.

The decision to continue the session of Congress was received with cheers in the House of Representatives.

The bankers' section of the members of the House of Representatives suggests borrowing abroad for the purpose of recouping the Treasury for the withdrawal of gold.

The chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means holds that 50,000,000dols. will meet all present needs.

The associated bankers of New York have appointed a committee which is to be ready to act in any emergency.

Heavy loans are being effected in America at 6 per cent.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A MESSAGE FROM MELBOURNE.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

At the final meeting of the Melbourne Stock Exchange to-day, prior to adjourning over the Christmas holidays, some consideration was given to matters of public importance, and it was resolved to send telegrams to the London and the New York Stock Exchanges, wishing them "peace and goodwill."

VICTORIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

FARMERS' LOAN AND AGENCY COMPANY LIMITED.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

The annual meeting of the Victorian Farmers' Loan and Agency Company, Limited, was held to-day. The directors in their report express regret at the unsatisfactory state of the wheat market during the period under review, the inability of many farmers to meet their engagements being due to the low prices ruling early in the year. The directors also drew attention to the fact that the book values of farms, mills, and other properties were in excess of their present market value.

CHAFFEY BROTHERS, LIMITED.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

The auditors of Chaffey Brothers, Limited, have decided to authorise the liquidators to continue cultivation at Mildura and irrigation at Renmark for a month, pending reports on the prospects of a settlement being made by the representative sent to examine into the position of affairs.

MEAT AND MILK SUPPLY.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

The unsatisfactory condition of the meat and milk supply has induced the Government to appoint a veterinary inspector, in answer to an urgent request by the Board of Public Health. Mr. F. Cother, of the Post and Telegraph Department, who is a qualified veterinarian, has been selected for the post.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

The cricket match, Victoria v. New South Wales, will be commenced on Boxing Day. The visiting team arrived by the express this morning and was welcomed by representatives of the Victorian Association.

At a meeting of the Executive Council to-day Captain Freeman Thomas and the Earl of Shaftesbury, members of the Governor's staff, were appointed to rank as captains of the Victorian Military Force.

The will of the late Mr. Robert Bodington, of Brighton, engineer, has been lodged for probate. The estate is valued at £15,749.

A party of eight sportsmen visited Campbell Island, on the Murray River, on Saturday for the purpose of duck-shooting. Ducks were very scarce, but the island was infested with snakes. The party turned their attention to the reptiles and killed 143 of them. The snakes were mostly of the tiger species, ranging from 3ft. 6in. to 6ft. in length.

The complete schedule in the estate of Joshua H. Cushing, merchant, deceased, was filed in the Insolvency Court to-day. The liabilities are set down at £30,180 and the assets at £10,774, leaving a deficiency of £19,706.

SPECIAL CABLES.

FROM THE *HERALD'S* LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

THE ASHANTEE WAR.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

Two Ashantee chiefs, who are supposed to be traitors, are proceeding to the Gold Coast Colony to interview the Governor of the colony.

Natives friendly to the British possess a large stock of powder in the vicinity of Coomassie, the capital of Ashantee.

BRITISH GUIANA.

A NEW GOVERNOR.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

Sir Augustus Hemming, K.C.M.G., formerly principal clerk in the Colonial Office, who served on special missions to Paris and Berlin in 1879, 1881, 1887, and 1889, and who was British delegate to the West African Conference at Berlin in 1884, has been appointed Governor of British Guiana.

DEATH OF THE DUKE OF LEEDS.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

The death is announced of the Duke of Leeds at the age of 67 years.

His eldest son, the Marquis of Carmarthen, M.P. for Brixton, succeeds him in the title.

DEATH OF M. STEPNIAK.

KILLED BY A TRAIN.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

M. Sergius Michael Dragomanoff Stepniak, the Russian patriot and exile, has been run over by a train and killed at a level crossing at Chiswick, a suburb of London.

The whistle of the engine was sounded, but M. Stepniak did not heed it and walked on to the line to his death.

M. Stepniak was born in 1841 at Hadjatsch, in the Ukraine Mountains, in the Government of Poltawa, and came of a semi-noble family descended from the Cossacks of Little Russia. He studied at Kieff from 1859 to 1863. In that time he published several works in the Little Russian dialect, which were prohibited by the Government in 1862. In 1865 he became *docent* in ancient history in the University of Kieff, and in 1870 he became a professor, but was removed from his chair by the Government three years later. His criticisms on the system pursued by Count Tolstoi, one of the Ministers of Justice, led to his exile in 1876. He went to Geneva then and settled there, producing popular writings in the Little Russian dialect. In 1877 he began a series of reviews in the Ukraine dialect called "Hromada," which means "common things." At the same time he worked hard for the establishment of equal political rights for all people in Russia, and declared against socialism as well as absolutism. Some of the principal works which Stepniak has produced are: "The Turks Within and Without," "Tyrannicide in Russia," and "Little Russian Internationalism." He also contributed to the magazines some papers on "East European Peoples, and the Propaganda of Socialism," and "Historical Poland and the Muscovite Democracy." He is also known for his works on the ethnography, history, and literature of Little Russia, and, with M. Antonowitch, edited a collection of Little Russian folk-songs.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF QUEENSLAND.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

Lord Lamington, the new Governor of Queensland, will sail for Brisbane in the British India Company's steamer India on the 5th February.

LOCOMOTIVES FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

The Western Australian Government has accepted the tender of Neilson and Co., of the Springburn Works, Glasgow, for the supply of 10 railway engines. The locomotives are to be shipped for Western Australia within six months.

THE AMERICA CUP.

LORD DUNRAVEN'S STATEMENTS.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

It is reported that the committee of the New York Yacht Club has considered the statements made recently by the Earl of Dunraven in regard to the measurement of the yacht Defender in the late contest for the America Cup, and has decided that the statements are not correct.

The committee has pointed out that prior to the race the Earl of Dunraven could easily have obtained a re-measurement.

NEW ZEALAND LOAN AND MERCANTILE AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

Messrs. Turquand and Young, the firm of which Mr. Young, the late auditor of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, is a member, have written to the *Times* in reference to the dispute between Mr. Young and the directors of the company.

They explain that the dispute arose out of Mr. Young's refusal to adopt the directors' method of explaining the probable deficit.

Mr. Martin, chairman of the board of directors, has replied, stating that the directors did not object to the auditors reporting as to the amount of the deficit, but they objected to delay on the part of the auditors.

The *Times* endorses Mr. Young's action, and says that a longer period should have been allowed him for the examination of the balance-sheet.

NATIONAL BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

The National Bank of New Zealand pays a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

ROUND HARBOURS, UP MOUNTAINS! Everywhere you find Dona Marina Mexican Cigars.—[ADVT.]

SPECIAL CABLES.

FROM THE *HERALD'S* LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

SOUTH POLAR REGIONS.

A SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION.

LONDON, Dec. 23.

Mr. C. E. Borchgrevink, a member of the last expedition to the South Polar regions, and the author of papers on the subject of Antarctic Exploration which were read before the late International Geographical Congress, is arranging for whalers bound for the South Seas to land 12 scientists at Cape Adair, Victoria Land.

These scientists purpose spending a year in exploring the interior of Victoria Land.

While in Sydney Mr. Borchgrevink had two alternative schemes for exploring the Antarctic Continent. The first, which, in his opinion, was the one to be preferred, was to send an expedition to Cape Adair with one or two steamers, which should remain at that point until the land party had travelled to the south magnetic pole by the aid of snow shoes, Norwegian "ski" and sledges dragged by Esquimaux dogs. The second scheme, and apparently the one adopted, was to co-operate with a whaling expedition, and to have a party of scientists landed at Cape Adair. The whaling party would return, and pick them up after the cruise through the whaling-grounds. The greatest objection to this scheme is that should the whaling expedition be lost, or be unable to return to Cape Adair through the icepack, which is at some seasons well-nigh impracticable, the scientific party would be helpless to make its way back to civilisation, and would be at the mercy of a relief party which might not be able to go to the rescue for many months. However, rather than see his scheme for the exploration of the continent lying within the Antarctic circle fall to the ground, Mr. Borchgrevink is apparently ready to take the risk.

THE WOOL MARKET.

LONDON, Dec. 24.

Nothing is doing in the Bradford market. Holders are not anxious to sell.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ARRIVAL OF THE R.M.S. ORIENT.

ADELAIDE, Tuesday.

The R.M.S. Orient arrived from London shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon. The mails for the other colonies will leave Adelaide by Wednesday's express.

THE QUARANTINED PASSENGERS.

ADELAIDE, Tuesday.

The last of the Australien's passengers who were quarantined were released to-day. They were a woman and her child who declined to be vaccinated with the others.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A CYCLIST MISSING.

COOLGARDIE, Monday.

Mr. Walter Douglas, cyclist, who went on a trip to the Lake Darlot country, and who was reported overdue a few days ago, has not yet put in an appearance. He was last seen alive near Dayles, six miles from water. He did not reach camp, however, by to-night. Information has come to hand that his bicycle was found on the road. This news has shattered hopes of his safety. Douglas is a native of Goulburn, New South Wales.

MURDER OF A PROSPECTOR.

COOLGARDIE, Monday.

Mr. Gabbott and Mr. J. Tremberth arrived to-day from beyond Kurnalpie, and report the murder of a prospector by blacks. The body was found under a tree at a spot about four miles from Gardoonia and 40 miles south of Kurnalpie. The discovery was made by a man named Connelly, about six weeks ago, who thought the remains were those of a blackfellow. They were next found by a half-caste in the employ of Mr. Horace Melville. Information was sent to Fraser's Range station, and thence to the authorities at Dundas, but the country was too dry to send out police. The appearance of the corpse was horrible. The head was smashed in. The deceased, so far as can be judged, was from 40 to 50 years old, of sandy complexion, hair turning grey, about 5ft. 7in. in height, and rather stout.

COOLGARDIE, Monday.

Mr. Butler, lately in the employ of Messrs. Hare and Vyner, solicitors, died this morning rather suddenly. Yesterday the thermometer registered 118· in the shade. It was the hottest day on record. Water has given out between here and the head of the railway, Cobb and Co. having to cart a supply from Coolgardie. Freights continue to rise.

PERTH, Tuesday.

The Freemasons' Hotel, a property at the corner of St. George's-terrace and William-street, has been sold by auction for £14,000.

A 20oz. nugget is reported to have been picked up at Dry Creek on the Tomberly goldfields.

TASMANIA.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

HOBART, Tuesday.

Lieutenant A. A. St. Hill, of the Southern Tasmania Artillery, has passed his final examination for a commission in the Imperial army, and the Premier has received a cable from the Agent-General stating that Lieutenant St. Hill will be gazetted to a regiment at an early date. He was senior public scholar at the Officers' College in 1891.

The Launceston Benevolent Society proposes asking Lord Brassey to permit visitors to inspect the yacht Sunbeam, when in the Tamar, for a silver coin admission, in aid of the society's fund.

Mrs. Donald Cameron has reported to the Tasmanian Game Protection Society gratifying success in rearing pheasants and partridges at Kelvin Grove, Canara. Mrs. Cameron revisits England shortly, and will bring back woodcock, grouse, and other British birds.

NEW ZEALAND.

[BY CABLE.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A FATAL FIRE.

AUCKLAND, Tuesday.

The Star and Garter Hotel, Coromandel, and 13 other buildings were destroyed by fire early this morning. Two bodies were found amidst the debris of the hotel. It is feared that other lives have been lost. The insurance amounts to about £2000, and is spread over a number of offices. The loss is about £6000.

MIDLAND RAILWAY ARBITRATION CASE.

AUCKLAND, Tuesday.

The award in the Midland railway arbitration case was delivered to-day. The costs are marked at £6800, of which £2100 goes to Mr. Blake, the umpire. The award, which is in a sealed envelope, will not be lifted till after the holidays.

AUCKLAND, Tuesday.

The National Bank of New Zealand has declared an interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum.

A newly-married couple named Woodward, while bathing in a creek near Auckland, were drowned.

WE are requested to state that the National Art Gallery in the Domain will be closed to-day.

COUNTRY NEWS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

FATALITY AT BOWRAL.

BOWRAL, Tuesday.

An inquest was held yesterday at the hospital, before Mr. A. D. Badgery, coroner, and a jury of 12, touching the death of John Barr, who had been fatally injured at the railway stone-crushers on the previous Thursday. Mr. H. M. Oxley, solicitor, was present on behalf of the deceased's relatives, and Mr. M. Kenny, the railway stationmaster, on behalf of the Railway Commissioners. The investigation lasted until late in the evening. The deceased was an engineer employed by the Railway Commissioners, and was in charge of the machinery at the stone-crushers. The machinery was in full work at ordinary crushing speed, and deceased in attempting to extricate a stone which had been thrown out of the crusher and had become fast between the fly-wheel and crusher was caught by the belt, which drew him through the hole in which the belt and wheel work, and he fell from there to the ground below, a distance of fully 40ft. His back was broken, his forearm was fractured, and lesser injuries were sustained. He was taken to the hospital, and lingered until Tuesday night. The jury found that death was due to injuries accidentally received.

THE WRECK OF THE DURISDEER.

NEWCASTLE, Tuesday.

The ship Durisdeer is now breaking up. Every effort has been made in the direction of salvage. The vessel is rapidly going to pieces. A Marine Board inquiry will be held on Friday.

ARMIDALE, Tuesday.

The Bishop of Grafton and Armidale held an Ordination service in St. Peter's, Armidale, on Sunday, when the Rev. A. R. Maclean, of Grafton, and the Rev. A. Ross, B.A., of Tamworth, were admitted as priests; and Messrs. C. Monro, of Bellinger, L. Nye, of Narrabri, and J. T. Bate, of Richmond River, were ordained as deacons. The sermon was preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Flowers from Grafton. This ordination raises the number of clergy in the diocese of Grafton and Armidale to 34.

BOWRAL, Tuesday.

The town is very gay. All the chief business places are decorated for the festive season, and the Sydney people who have summer residences here have nearly all arrived, in addition to a large influx of Sydney folk who have secured furnished residences for the summer months. The weather is perfect for holiday-making. Numerous parties are arranging trips to Belmore and Fitzroy Falls, Macquarie Pass, and other places of pleasure resort.

BROKEN HILL, Tuesday.

The weather threatens to be very warm for the Christmas holidays, the maximum temperature attained to-day being 103· in the shade.

The principal fixtures for Boxing Day are a cricket match between the combined Broken Hill Eleven and the Adelaide Metropolitan Association team, on the Recreation Reserve; athletic sports at West Broken Hill, and Catholic sports at Silverton. On Boxing Night a "Continental," in aid of the hospital funds, will be given in the central reserve, and will include a fire brigade competition and a torchlight procession. The Taylor-Carrington Dramatic Company also opens in the Cosmopolitan Hall. Business is fairly brisk.

BYRON BAY, Tuesday.

Good rain fell all last night, an inch and a quarter being registered. It is still raining steadily.

GRETA, Tuesday.

Splendid rain fell here nearly all last night and at intervals throughout to-day. It is still threatening.

HILLSTON, Tuesday.

Mr. G. D. Woodall, late postmaster, was last night at a smoke concert presented with a purse of sovereigns subscribed by the people of the town and district as a memento of their appreciation of his courtesy and attention to the public during his seven years' residence here. The various speakers at the presentation ceremony vied with each other in extolling their guest's attention and ability in his office. Mr. Woodall and family left by special coach to-day for Condobolin with the good wishes of a large crowd assembled to see them off.

LISMORE, Tuesday.

The Rev. Mother of the Presentation Nuns at Lismore, who has been on a visit to Europe, returned yesterday with 15 sisters, who will engage in educational work here, and at Ballina and Coraki.

The weather was threatening throughout the day, but now shows signs of clearing, with the prospect of fine weather for the Caledonian sports on Boxing Day.

LITHGOW, Tuesday.

The Rev. J. Milne Curran delivered a geological lecture in the Oddfellows' Hall, before a good audience, last night, the Mayor presiding. The lecture was most interesting, and was heard with close attention. Regret was expressed that the lecturer had to return to Sydney last night, and it is hoped that he will soon be able to visit the town again.

MITTAGONG, Tuesday.

There are more visitors in town this year than there have been for several years past. Among the new arrivals are Judge Murray and Colonel Owen.

MOUNT VICTORIA, Tuesday.

Very light misty rain fell on and off all yesterday and last night. Seven points were registered this morning. It is bright and calm to-day.

NARRANDERA, Tuesday.

At the local police court to-day Edward Clayton, grazier, was fined £6 for selling two cancerous bullocks to H. S. Carter, a local butcher, who was also fined £10 for having them in his possession.

The Riverina Meat Chilling Company's employees held a picnic to-day. Previous to going to the picnic grounds 100 members of the Butchers' Union marched in procession through the principal streets, headed by the town band.

The weather is very oppressive to-day, and the thermometer registered over 100 degrees in the shade.

NEWCASTLE, Tuesday.

The Christmas holidays are beginning very inauspiciously. Very few people are in town from the mining townships. The weather is threatening.

A pleasant function took place last evening at the Great Northern Hotel, in the shape of a send-off to Alderman Dr. Grant, for many years a resident of Newcastle, who is shortly leaving for Western Australia. The chair was taken by the Mayor of Newcastle, Alderman W. B. Sharp. The guest was the recipient of a handsome purse of sovereigns. The gathering comprised most of the leading citizens.

OBERON, Tuesday.

The annual Christmas gathering in connection with the Anglican Church was held on Saturday. There was a numerous attendance. At night a successful concert took place. Archdeacon Dunstan presided.

QUEANBEYAN, Tuesday.

George Chenney, aged 25 years, was found at 2.30 on Friday morning in an upstairs room of the Commercial Bank. He was committed for trial to-day on charges of being on the premises of the bank and vicarage with felonious intent. A skeleton key and an ordinary key were found on him after his arrest. Another skeleton key was subsequently found in the room where he was arrested.

The weather is oppressively hot. Vegetation has perished, and the outlook is disheartening.

RICHMOND, Tuesday.

Messrs. Woodhill and Co. had their premises lighted by electricity last night for the first time. They propose to light the whole block through the same medium.

A selector named R. P. Parker, of Blaxland's Ridge, near Kurrajong, fell from his horse yesterday, and died in the district hospital this morning from the injuries received.

Numbers of thefts of fruit from Kurrajong orchards have occurred recently, and a movement is on foot to have a constable stationed at Wheeny Creek.

WILCANNIA, Tuesday.

At the Police Court to-day John Ryan was committed for trial to the next Court of Quarter Sessions on a charge of obtaining £1 from James Henry Hanley by means of an unlawful device, to wit, using loaded dice. Bail was allowed the accused in £50, and two sureties of £25 each.

The steamer Pioneer, from South Australia, laden with general merchandise for local consignees, was unable to proceed beyond Commissioner's Bend, four miles down stream, and discharged her cargo on the bank of the river. She returned to South Australia to-day, and takes on wool at Weinteriga en route. The Goldsbrough, from Echuca, stuck at Ten Mile Point. The Decoy stuck at Culpaulin Cutting, 12 miles down stream by land. Captain Grundy intends to wait there for the coming rise in the river, when there will be sufficient water to enable the Decoy to get through. The rise taking place at the Upper River stations is expected to reach here in a fortnight's time.

The weather continues warm and sultry.

WEST WYALONG, Tuesday.

Sports for New Year's Day are advertised to be held at the local racecourse.

The weather is very hot, and considerable sickness is prevalent.

Good water is being procured at the Government water shaft, near Carter's tank, and is being sold in the town.

WOLLONGONG, Tuesday.

Mr. Frank M'Caffrey (late of the Department of Agriculture), manager of the Farmers' and Dairymen's Refrigerating Company, delivered a lecture last night at the Agricultural Hall, Dapto, under the auspices of the Dapto Agricultural Society, entitled "Tuberculosis: What is its Signification?" There was a large attendance of dairymen, Mr. C. J. Cullen, J.P., presiding. The lecturer, who dealt with the subject in an exhaustive manner, was accorded a vote of thanks at the close of his address.

A meeting was held at the Orpheus Hall, Balgownie, last night, under the presidency of the Mayor of North Illawarra, at which it was resolved that application be made to the Government for a piece of land suitable for a recreation ground for the locality, and that a request be made that the Balgownie-road should be continued over the summit of the mountain range.

The arms, accoutrements, and clothing of the Illawarra Half Squadron of Lancers have been received from Sydney, and will be re-issued to the men at the beginning of next week. The Half-Squadron will form portion of the troops to take part in the four days' encampment at Campbelltown, commencing on the 20th January next.

The weather, which has been very unsettled during the past few days, is to-day beautifully fine, with every appearance of continuing so during the holidays.

QUEENSLAND.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A FATAL ACCIDENT.

BRISBANE, Tuesday.

The body of a man named William Macintosh, one of the crew of the pilot steamer Laura, was picked out of the mud in the river this morning. It is supposed that the man was going on board the steamer last night, and fell, striking a pile and becoming unconscious. There was a terrible gash in his forehead.

TWO NEW RIVERS DISCOVERED.

BRISBANE, Tuesday.

The Hon. John Douglas has telegraphed to the Colonial Secretary that he has just returned in the Albatross from examining two large rivers recently discovered. They are likely to prove of considerable importance in the development of Cape York Peninsula, even surpassing the Batavia River in utility.

BRISBANE, Tuesday.

The tick plague is carrying off a large number of stock in the Cooktown district.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOLD-FIELDS.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

KALGOORLIE, Monday.

The balance of the purchase money has been paid to Mr. Pherm for the Etraweenie and Etraweenie North. These mines are situated a mile east of the township, and adjoin the Kalgoorlie property on the south and east boundary. The purchase was made by Mr. G. Aarons, late manager of the Londonderry, on behalf of a mining syndicate, for flotation in London. The weather yesterday was hot and the thermometer registered 110 in the shade. The Royal Mint and Mount Pleasant properties, Bardock, have been placed under offer to wealthy English capitalists. The Mount Gwynne property has been secured by Dwyer and Delaney. In the North Bardock driving at the 80ft. level has disclosed a nice formation, carrying gold. Alluvial continues to be worked at Bardock. Slugs are scarce, but a little fine gold is being found.

SOUTHERN CROSS, Tuesday.

Mr. Wilson, the manager of the Southern Cross Gold-mining Syndicate, arrived here from Mount Malcolm on Sunday, bringing with him a considerable quantity of specimens from the lease he took up on behalf of a syndicate a short while back. The stone, which is exhibited, far surpasses anything that has for some years past been shown at Southern Cross. Nuggets of clear, shotty gold stand out prominently all over the surface of the stone. Some small pieces of quartz among the collection consist of nearly three parts gold. The stone is of a dull grey colour. On the Hope's Hill mine work has not yet been recommenced, but the weak spot in the machinery, which a few weeks ago caused the cessation of operations, has been strengthened, and it is probable that in the course of a week the battery will be again started.

ACCIDENT TO THE WESTERN MAIL.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PENRITH, Tuesday.

News has just been received to the effect that the Western mail train left the rails at Springwood to-night.

The engine ran off the line and took three of the carriages with it.

No particulars of the accident are yet to hand. A party has left here for the scene of the occurrence.

GLENBROOK, Later.

Both trains, one leaving Sydney at 8 p.m. and the other at 8.15 p.m., passed through Penrith in good time and well loaded. About 10 o'clock word was received at Penrith that the first train was blocked at Springwood through the engine and three carriages having left the road. Very little other information came to hand. The second mail was stopped at Glenbrook, and the engine was sent on to bring back the empty carriages and allow the breakdown gear to get to work. The breakdown train left Penrith about a quarter to 11 o'clock with District Superintendent Henson on board. There were also Inspector Boyd, of the Traffic Department; Inspector Colley, of the Locomotive Department; Inspector Roberts, of the permanent way, and a large staff of men. Every apparatus was taken for getting the road clear. The passengers by the second train are here at Glenbrook, and appear to be generally in a very good humour. So far it is impossible to find the extent of the damage.

Mr. Kirkcaldie, traffic manager, and Mr. Stanger, locomotive superintendent, caught a midnight train at Homebush and proceeded by it to the scene of the accident. The district superintendent attended at the Redfern station at an early hour this morning, waiting the arrival of more complete information, and made preparations for despatching a special train should the character of the accident warrant it.

PASTORAL INTELLIGENCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

NARRANDERA, Tuesday.

The following stock passings were reported today:—400 store bullocks, from J. Dixon, Uabba, going to Wodonga, Victoria; 4000 ewes, from Mimosa, going to Goree station; 7000 mixed ewes and 80 Lincoln rams, from Barooga station, going to M'Farland Brothers' Malonga station.

TOWN HALL ORGAN RECITALS.

There was a fine attendance at the Christmas Eve recital by the City Organist last night. In place of the somewhat solemn "Rock of Ages," Mr. Wiegand substituted Grison's popular "Communion in F," and the programme also included Batiste's "Grand Offertoire in D," the beautiful Christmas hymn "Nazareth," Adam's "Minuit Chrétien" (encored), and the "Hallelujah Chorus." The City Organist will play again on Boxing Night.

Do you intend to Preserve Fruit this season? If so, ask your Grocer now to do it with Anti-Fermentine.—(ADVT.)

LORD MAYOR'S DAY IN LONDON.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.)

LONDON, Nov. 14.

The Australian who when doing the world does not spend a November in London misses many very interesting experiences. His idea regarding fogs, grey, yellow, brown, and black, will be of a limited kind. He will not properly understand England's climate nor know how it is possible to jam 12 distinct changes of weather into one week—a glimpse of blue sky in the morning, a fog at lunch-time, and a storm with rain for supper seasoning. What is much more important, he will miss the Lord Mayor's show and its most enviable opportunity of seeing a London crowd. Fortified with the knowledge that the great day had at length arrived, armed with an umbrella, and rendered sleet-proof by overcoatings and wraps, on last Saturday your representative sallied forth to make a unit of the crowd. It was a disagreeable morning, misty, grey, dull, and dispiriting, but suburban London was true to its duties. House after house poured forth its contents. Trains and 'buses were crammed, and if there was any feature of the morning more remarkable than the weather it was the good humour which seemed to pervade the struggling masses which were hurrying towards London centre. In all streets close to the line intended for the great procession wheeled traffic was completely suspended. Instead of 'buses, waggons, and cabs, there were from side to side great armies of pedestrians. A fair proportion of great London's five million inhabitants were determined to see the Right Hon. Sir Walter Wilkin enter in state to his Mayoral duties, and when Londoners mean to perform a time-honoured duty it takes more than bad weather to keep them off the tracks. But is London a great city?

The curiosity of the tourist whose special mission is to know all about everything, everybody, and every place, may, to a certain extent, be satisfied regarding the magnitude of London and its suburbs by three trips. He can start from Ilford, which is due east from the city's centre and distant from it nine miles, and go straight through in a westerly direction Stratford, Bow, Mile End, Whitechapel, Aldgate, Cornhill, Cheapside, Newgate-street, Holborn, Oxford-street, Bayswater, Hammersmith, Brentford, and Hounslow, a distance of 20 miles. Then for a pleasanter variation he may go north to Enfield, which is from London's centre about 10 miles, and from that point travel in a southerly direction through Enfield, Southgate, Hornsey, Crouch Hill, Finsbury Park, Islington, over the Thames at Blackfriars Bridge, along the Borough-road to the Elephant and Castle, along Kennington-road past the celebrated cricket centre The Oval, through Loughboro', Brixton, Clapham, Norbury, Thornton Heath, and Croydon, a distance of 20 miles. After these two interesting journeys Mr. Tourist may have a third excursion across London from the north-east to south-west from Loughton to Woking, a delightful walk say of about 40 miles. This is why the travelling Londoner speaks of his home as "that little village called London." As a matter of fact the "village" is now as if several cities were gradually tacked one on to the other. For more than one half of the distances mentioned in the three journeyings of investigation will be through streets which are lined with shops and other places where business of some kind is transacted, while the other half will be past terraces of dwelling-houses and substantial and well-adorned suburban villas. Suburban London is charming; better still it is clean. The systems of drainage are perfect, the roads, streets, and footpaths almost as good at the furthermost points as in the city's centre. There is no niggardliness in the disbursements of the municipal institutions. The rates are heavy, but those who pay them know and feel that they are enjoying substantial benefits. When a new suburb is found to be necessary drainage, roads, footpaths, gas, and water go simultaneously with the erection of the houses. I could name a city in which suburban progression is not so well ordered—where the evil odours of suburban surface-drains have for years polluted what should be if properly treated the purest and most health-giving atmosphere of this great globe. The Londoner respects his Mayors and aldermen, and pays up his rates and taxes like a man, but I know some parts of the world where the mere mention of a road rate suffices to make property-holders feverish.

Once again to the Lord Mayor's Show of 1895. There happened one of the most unexpected of changes. The nearer the crowds got to the respective vantage points the better became the weather. Actually before noon the sun was visible. The order of the day was:—"The procession will start from the Guildhall, at 12 o'clock noon, and proceed along Gresham-street, Princes-street, Mansion House, Cornhill, Leadenhall-street, St. Mary Axe, Houndsditch, Aldgate, Leadenhall-street, Cornhill, Mansion House, Poultry, Cheapside, St. Paul's Churchyard, Ludgate Hill, Fleet-street to the Royal Courts of Justice, returning by way of Strand, Northumberland-avenue, Victoria Embankment, Queen Victoria-street, Queen-street, King-street, to the Guildhall." On ordinary days one might stroll over this route in less than 90 minutes, but it took the procession about five hours to accomplish the task. Many parts of the journey were under festoons of flowers and through triumphal arches. Each window had its occupants, and the shops which had their shutters down placed temporary frames of solid planking before their glass fronts. Policemen on foot and mounted were everywhere. Each range of steps and each doorway had its crowd, and each lamppost had its cluster of small boys. My position was in the crowd's centre, near the Mansion House, in the great space before which there was a solid mass of patient humanity that now and then would surge backwards and forwards as the waves of a well-tempered sea. My earliest impressions were that what would be left of me before the procession arrived might be readily rolled like a piece of cloth and returned by parcel post to Sydney. But like the eels and the skinning, one became accustomed to even hydraulic pressure at times, and like others I commenced to use my elbows and enjoy the fun. Lose anything, your watch, hat, or umbrella, but don't lose your temper in a London crowd. I kept mine despite the fact that sometimes I was politely requested to "let someone stand on my hat," "to keep my hair on," and asked "if I intended to grow any more." A mild expostulation would bring the free explanation that it was wrong to "annoy the gent. Don't you know who that is? It's the Lord Mayor." Yet in this crowd there were well-dressed women folk, some with babies, and of fathers with children on their shoulders, supporting their offspring in the true sense of the word, there were thousands.

Outside the fringes of the crowd, in good positions, there were parties of ambulance nurses and their assistants, all ready with handcarts and larger vehicles to move wounded or crushed folk. The duties of these nurses were not heavy. They looked as modern nurses usually strive to do, as charming as possible, and did a fair share of flirting. The latter part of the work would be occasionally interrupted by the call for attention to some of the female crowd who had fainted, but the day was devoid of any serious results.

The procession was grander, better ordered, and better dressed than the usual run of Mayor's shows. Taken as a whole the dressing was magnificent, and the music grandly imposing. While one of the crowd I did not see much, but some hours later, when I had a good position in one of the windows of the *Sydney Morning Herald's* London Branch, 78 Queen Victoria-street, the special features of the show were well under observation. It was not a very lengthy procession, and took no more than 17 minutes to pass the *Herald* Office, a great width of street having given opportunities for good speed. About 10 trade companies were represented by mounted men, banners, and carriages. The great triumphal car which bore the trophy of the Fruiterer's Company was a most attractive portion. The artillery, with what is said to be the best-mounted band in England, detachments of the crack Cavalry Regiment of Hussars, the gorgeously attired State band of the Royal Horse Guards with coats covered with gold embroidery, and wearing black velvet huntsman caps. The cars bearing trophies representing Africa and India, and last but not least the great State chariot of the city, were one and all sights which could not be soon forgotten. Of firemen there were hundreds, and of steam fire engines several. Mayors of the olden time, from Whittington's days to those of George III., passed as so many ghosts of former shows. Men in real armour, not the ordinary theatrical tin plate, kept their places and tried hard to make it appear that their iron suits were of a comfortable kind. Footmen and coachmen displayed liveries, the cost of which probably would be too much to mention, and the Lord Mayor and sheriffs kept on smiling with that grimness which five hours of journey is likely to provoke. There were the Gordon Boys in kilts, there were bagpipers, sailors clad as the sea-dogs used to be in Nelson's day, and modern tars as represented by the boys of the training ship Warspite. Africa was strongly boomed by its car, which bore enough gold, or what seemed to be gold, to float hundreds of duffer mines, and as everyone said that the show was a success it would be a bold action on the part of any journalist to chronicle it as having displayed even the smallest degree of the theatrical element.

MEETINGS.

METROPOLITAN TRANSIT COMMISSION.

A meeting of the Metropolitan Transit Commission was held yesterday. The president (the Hon. S. E. Lees, Mayor of Sydney) occupied the chair, and there were also present Inspector-General Fosbery and Messrs. G. E. Russell Jones and Adams. A letter was received from the Woollahra Council stating that the cab boundaries on the eastern side of the borough were unreasonably contracted, and asking that they be extended to their original limits. It was stated that the cabmen objected to the alteration. The further consideration of the matter was postponed. A motion was carried that all applications for cab licenses to which no objections were lodged should be granted on the 1st January.

UNITED FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' DEMONSTRATION COMMITTEE.

The final executive meeting of the above committee, previous to the sports, was held last night in the New Masonic Hall, under the presidency of Alderman J. F. Smith, when the official programme was laid on the table. Courteous replies had been received from the Tramway authorities and the Transit Commissioners re the matter of arranging the traffic on Boxing Day. It was decided that all tickets be collected not later than 2nd January, 1896. Votes of thanks were passed to the business firms who had allowed their windows to be used for the purpose of exhibiting a portion of the prizes in the art union. Brother J. Bell was appointed to represent the committee in the sports ring, Brother Dorman in charge of ground, side shows, &c.; Brother Grace filling a similar position at the main gate collectors, and Brother Rafton in charge of change box and extra ticket books.

PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO SUB-INSPECTOR LONG.

A public meeting of the residents of Paddington, Waverley, and Woollahra was held at the Oddfellows' Hall, Queen-street, Woollahra, on Monday night, to decide the best means of making recognition of the services of Sub-inspector Long, who is retiring from the charge of the police in that district after 25 years' service. The chair was occupied by the Mayor of Woollahra (Alderman T. Magney), and the attendance was numerous. The Hon. W. J. Trickett, M.L.C., moved a resolution urging that Sub-inspector Long's great services to the district should be duly recognised. The motion was seconded by Alderman Tom George, J.P., supported by Mr. J. C. Neild, M.L.A., and carried with great acclamation. The following executive committee was formed, representatives being appointed in every section of the district:—Messrs. H. Mortimor (Double Bay), S. Scholes (Rushcutter Bay), Alderman Tom George, J.P., James Sinnott, A. Visloux (council clerk), Alderman G. Parker Jones (the Mayor of Paddington), Alderman D. Brown, Alderman M. E. S. Whysall, Alderman R. W. Usher, Mr. J. Lees, Mr. J. B. Bassett, Mr. J. Fletcher (Paddington), Alderman Magney (the Mayor of Woollahra), Captain Burns, Mr. C. W. Oakes, Alderman J. T. Gannon, Mr. Whaynau, Mr. Cummings, Mr. H. Ackland, sen., Mr. H. Ackland, jun., Mr. Stackpool (Woollahra), Alderman A. C. Hewlett, J.P. (the Mayor of Waverley), Alderman W. Rush, Mr. Bennett, Mr. R. T. Orr (council clerk), Mr. J. C. Apted (Waverley), Mr. F. Leukert (Bondi). The general committee formed was a large and influential one, including the names of the Hon. W. J. Trickett, M.L.C., Mr. Adrian Knox, M.L.A., Mr. J. C. Neild, M.L.A., Inspector Downing (of the Distilleries Department), Dr. F. H. Quaife, Captain Burns, and the Mayors and aldermen of Waverley, Woollahra, and Paddington. Mr. Fred. W. C. Crane, J.P. (C.P.S., Paddington), was appointed as hon. sec., and Messrs. C. A. Vivian (council clerk, Woollahra) and Webster (manager of the Paddington branch of the Commercial Bank) as hon. treasurers.

THE PARRAMATTA RIVER NUISANCE.

On Monday evening a meeting of ratepayers was held in the Parramatta Town Hall to discuss the nuisance in the Parramatta River, caused principally from the drainage from the Government institutions. The Mayor (Alderman C. J. Byrnes) presided, and read a letter from Sir Joseph Abbott stating that he cordially supported the object of the meeting. If the nuisance was caused by the Government and they would do nothing, the ratepayers should move in the Equity Court to have the matter righted. He had heard of the matter through the King's School, and if something was not done he might have to invoke the aid of the Equity Court, but he did not think the responsibility of doing so should rest with him. Archdeacon Gunther asked if the council had the right referred to by Sir Joseph Abbott why action had not been taken before. The Mayor said the Hon. George Thornton had promised that when Parliament met again he would move for a special commission to inquire into the cause of the nuisance. In view of the smallness of the meeting it was decided to postpone it for a fortnight, and to invite Sir Joseph Abbott and the Hon. George Thornton to attend.

PLATINUM IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

A NEW AND PROFITABLE INDUSTRY.

Mr. J. B. Jaquet, geological surveyor, has forwarded to the Mines Department a report upon the newly-discovered platinum deposits at Fifield, about 26 miles north-east of Condobolin and 54 north-east of Parkes. The report says that platinum has previously been recorded as occurring in the colony in the sea beaches between the Richmond and Clarence rivers, in ironstone and decomposed gneiss near Broken Hill, and grains of the metal have not infrequently been met with by miners working various auriferous drifts. However, until the opening up of the Fifield platina deposits there had been no production upon a commercial scale. The field was first opened up in 1893, though the presence of platinum was recorded many years previous to this by Mr. T. F. Connelly, who received Government aid to prospect the district. The formations represented are Silurian slates, intruded by diorite, and fossiliferous sandstones and limestones of Devonian or Siluro-Devonian age. The platiniferous lead is a little over a mile long. It varies in width from 60 to 150 feet, and is covered with from 60 to 70 feet of loam. The precious metals are practically confined to the bedrock and the drift for three inches above the bottom. Nuggets which weighed from a few grains up to 5dwt., have been occasionally found. The crude metal contains about 75 per cent. of platinum, and realises at the present time upon the field 24s per oz. The quantity of platinum per load of washdirt varies from 5dwt. to 12dwt., while the total value of the precious metals per load varies from 9s to 37s. In the vicinity of Fifield, at an elevation of over 100ft. above the lead now being worked, beds of cement and indurated ferruginous shales occur, which are of Tertiary age, or even older. These beds contain a little gold and platinum, but not where hitherto explored in payable quantities. Mr. Jaquet is of opinion that the precious metals in the recent deposits have been derived from these older conglomerates; that the latter have been disintegrated and ground-sluiced by nature, and the deposits now being worked represent the resultant concentrates. Other beds containing platinum and gold probably occur under the flats in the vicinity of Fifield and Burra Burra. The prospecting of these flats, however, will be a tedious operation, since they are for the most part of great extent, and there is nothing upon the surface to indicate the path of gutters below. The development of the field has been much retarded by dry seasons and the consequent shortage of water for sluicing purposes. The Fifield platina lead has already yielded 1200oz. of platinum, and the gold obtained upon the whole field since 1893 totals about 1800oz. At the present time 7000 loads of washdirt are dumped around the various claims awaiting treatment. With the opening up of the field a new industry has been created, and an addition made to the long and varied list of mineral deposits exported from New South Wales.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

LANE COVE.

A meeting of the council of the borough of Lane Cove was held in the council-chambers, Longueville, on the 23rd instant. The Mayor presided. Three motions standing in the name of Alderman Landers were discussed:—(1) "That this council requests the Mayor to cause immediate and energetic action to be taken in getting in outstanding rates, arrears, and current." Carried. The council to get extra remuneration for getting in arrears. (2) "That written notice be at once given to those interested that rents of wharfs, at rates recently decided upon, will be enforced from 1st proximo." Carried. (3) "That applications be called for offers from persons in a position to lease or sell land at Longueville-road suitable for erection thereon of council-chambers." Withdrawn, a committee being appointed to interview owner of land on which the present council-chambers stand.

WILLOUGHBY.

An adjourned meeting of the Willoughby Council was held in the council-chambers on the 23rd instant to consider the gas committee's report and the proposed contract with the North Shore Gas Company for the extension of gas within the borough. The Mayor (Alderman R. Small) presided. Alderman Catt moved and Alderman Gordon seconded the adoption of the lighting committee's report, and that the Mayor be authorised to sign and affix the corporate seal of the borough to the contract with the North Shore Gas Company. Alderman Lanceley moved an amendment, which was seconded by Alderman Butcher, that the matter be deferred until the elections to be held next February. Alderman Mashman also spoke. The motion was carried.

BANKSTOWN.

A meeting was held on Thursday evening. The Mayor (Alderman J. J. Cooper), presided over a full council. It was notified that the 11th January had been fixed for the hearing of appeals against the first assessment. The valuers reported that they had completed their valuation; the number of properties was 957, and the rateable value £8676 15s. This, at a rate of 1s in the £, would give an annual revenue of £433 16s 9d. The valuation was adopted, and a rate of 1s in the £ struck.

CHRISTMAS EVE IN SYDNEY.

Christmas Eve in Sydney was celebrated in a joyous manner. The principal thoroughfares were crowded with pedestrians, and during the earlier portion of the day the business of "shopping" was undertaken with much industry. Not only had household wants to be attended to, but the children's pleasure had to be considered. To accomplish these ends there was an abundance of choice in the city shops. During the evening the streets were thronged with people, but there was very little rowdyism. The "compliments of the season" were freely exchanged, and good humour seemed to prevail everywhere. Descriptions of the principal thoroughfares in the city are given below

GEORGE-STREET.

It is scarcely too much to say that George-street was crowded with an excited and animated throng from early in the afternoon until late in the evening. Of all the busy thoroughfares in the city yesterday George-street was probably the most busy. The crowd commenced with the overflow of residents from North Shore and the water suburbs. It is really difficult to say in which particular part of the street the crowd was the greatest. At the corners of King, Market, Park, Bathurst, Liverpool, and Goulburn streets, and in the neighbourhood of the arcades, large congregations of persons were collected—especially towards the evening—and it was with some difficulty that vehicular traffic could proceed. During the early part of the afternoon the pedestrians were to a large extent composed of the fair sex, accompanied by children, intent upon purchasing toys or other Christmas goods. It was astonishing to notice how the establishments in this street managed to show seasonable wares of one kind or another; but it was plain that those places which displayed toys, or showed an abundance of Christmas cards, possessed attractions for the general public which the others did not. In one or two instances evergreen was prominent, whilst in other places Chinese lanterns were in evidence. Of course, here and there a good deal of miscellaneous shopping was done, but so far as could be judged this was of a fragmentary character, most of the real business of Christmas having apparently been effected before. A good many of what may be termed the fancy shops held out allurements to the last, and probably reaped a good reward. As the afternoon faded away and the shadows of evening gathered the different shops were illuminated, and their charms rendered additionally attractive. But the character of the scene changed. The children with their parents, burdened with toys, trudging merrily homewards, were no longer to be seen. The thoroughfare was filled with people who, owing to the beautiful evening, and the attractive surroundings, had evidently determined to come out for a stroll. Young persons predominated. As a rule good order prevailed; but towards nightfall some horse play was indulged in. Wishing one another the compliments of the season was, in many cases, done with more heartiness than discretion; but on the whole there was very little—beyond the extra crowds in different portions of the street—to distinguish the proceedings from those of an ordinary holiday night. Certainly there seemed to be a want of haste on the part of many to seek the seclusion of their homes; but when the shops began to close the crowd gradually thinned down, and shortly before midnight George-street was comparatively deserted.

PITT-STREET.

So far as Pitt-street was concerned last evening seemed to be only a sort of emphasised Saturday night. The lower part of the thoroughfare—that is, from King-street to Circular Quay—is mainly aligned by wholesale business premises, stores, and offices, the proprietors of which require nothing in the way of garish gaslight to push their avocations. Their labours cease ere the setting of the sun, and after that "the cares that infest the day" are banished, and business is forgotten for the night. But higher up Pitt-street the case is different. The retail shops are there on either side, and the work goes on until the late hours. The fronts of the business houses are ablaze with lights, and the employees are in continuous bustle. It was in that part of the street that the footpaths were most thronged. After about 6 o'clock last evening the street was densely crowded, more particularly at the points where the arcades branch off from the street. One had either to drift with the human tide which seemed to have a sort of intermittent ebb and flow in either direction, or take the middle of the road. The old-fashioned Christmastide decorations in the way of ferns and greenery were not noticeable in Pitt-street. Whether it is that the shopkeepers have come to the conclusion that such attempts at the beautification of their premises go for nothing, inasmuch that in a crowd they are invisible, or whether they think business objects are more likely to be furthered by the tasteful display of goods in their windows, does not seem clear, but the fact remains that the decorations in Pitt-street were behind the plate-glass fronts. Many of them were exceedingly fine, but in the throng it was quite impossible to stand long enough to enable one to fully appreciate the effects of these window dressings. It is doubtful whether a very large amount of business was done during last evening, because it was a perpetually moving crowd, which seemed more bent upon conversation and enjoyment, seeing and being seen, than upon laying up stores of good things.

KING-STREET.

King-street presented throughout the day an essentially festive aspect, not because of the street decorations, which for some reason are gradually disappearing, but because of the animated throngs of people who, whilst daylight lasted, trudged along the thoroughfare, and who after sunset, were followed by even greater throngs which promenaded the street for some hours. If one looked up the street disregardful of the gaiety of the people who were in it he saw but little to betoken the approach of the great Christian festival; all that was to be noticed was here and there a bough rudely lashed to a post or a door jamb. And there the ordinary decorations may be said to have ended. No ingenuity had been exercised, no pains bestowed, in imparting to business establishments generally a gladsome appearance. Not so with the florists. Here one gets into a sphere where active competition prevails, or, at any rate, where it is recognised that the charms of a flower may be materially enhanced by the character of its surroundings. The beauty of some blooms is at least emphasised by the character of their environment. Here is the opportunity for the exercise of artistic skill, latent though it be. And that that was so was recognised by the crowds as they passed the establishment of Miss Goodenough. Miss Goodenough's window always looks rich with the choicest of blooms deftly arranged so that one's covetous feelings are often aroused by the little exhibition which she contrives to make. To say what flowers were in her window would be well nigh impossible. One carried away with him an idea of appropriateness to the season, suggested by the chaste wax-like purity of the water lily, and the cool spots which such nymphs delight in were more than symbolised. And passing along towards George-street the pedestrian encountered another revelation in the art of skilfully employing flowers so that they shall at least typify some idea. After all, however fanciful our idealistic the typical Englishman may be at other times, at dinner time on Christmas Day the one idea that he cherishes is that of having a goose. Messrs. Searl and Son determined to symbolise the season by constructing a floral goose; and the execution of this idea was worthy of the form. The background of flowers was pretty, and the whole display was set off by jewelled coloured lights, illuminated by electricity. Further northward was another Christmas floral display. The whole collection was essentially a Christmas one. Huge clusters of Christmas lilies, backed up by carnations of many colours, drawn from the mountains, and also other lovely blooms, formed an imposing background. The foreground of the design was composed of a gorgeous setting of carnations—scarlet lettering shaded with white, tipped with pink—extending the seasonable greeting, "A Merry Xmas."

MARKET-STREET.

Market-street, so far as holiday occasions are concerned, cannot boast of many attractions. It is mainly a highway from George-street to the trams in Elizabeth-street, and is used accordingly. At the same time it possesses shops which have their own special characteristics. Of course, Market-street is never crowded to the extent that George-street or Pitt-street are. One can always get through Market-street without crushing. Last night it was patronised to a very large extent indeed, and there was a constant coming and going of pedestrians. The establishments in the street made as gay appearance as possible, and at any rate during the early portion of the evening a fair amount of business was done.

THE ARCADES.

To only two of the arcades was a Christmas-like aspect imparted, one being the Sydney and the other the Strand. The Strand especially lends itself to the art of decoration, its galleries on either side, with its connecting ones at intervals, affording the decorator special facilities for the exercise of his art. And due partly to the facilities presented, and partly to the general skill exercised by the decorator, the scene presented was a creditable one. The Strand itself, apart from any decorations, is a huge emporium wherein are gathered exhibitions of the arts and manufactures of many parts of the world, and to still further enhance its cosmopolitan character, the decorator had hung with much skill, the flags, banners, and shields of many nations, the Union Jack, the Stars and Stripes, and the Southern Cross being especially conspicuous. The original arcade, the Sydney, assumed its usual oriental complexion, Chinese lanterns, huge Japanese umbrellas, and a collection of flags being hung so as to produce a very pretty effect. At only two establishments in the arcades were the displays especially noteworthy, both being in the Strand. In one case, Messrs. Shephard and Co., the florists, made a unique display of flowers, foliage, and plants. In the other, Miss L. Wigg, the florist, had imparted to her window a truly artistic effect. The natural beauty of the collection of flowers which Miss Wigg exhibited was enhanced by a clever arrangement of bijou electric lights, which were reflected in mirrors.

OXFORD-STREET.

It was not till after nightfall that Oxford-street became any way crowded, and even then it did not approach the crowded state of George-street, or the popular part of King-street. In many places there were gaps in the crowd and it was possible to move about with some degree of comfort, if not with freedom. Then there was good-humour on the part of the people, and all submitted to the little jostling and pushing that was unavoidable at some times with a temper that denoted the satisfaction which most of them experienced. The decorations were for the most part made in the conventional style. Large boughs—in some cases saplings—had been tied to the verandah posts, and in the shop windows were quantities of Christmas bush and Christmas bells. Occasionally these flowers had been arranged with an eye to effect, and with taste; but in the majority of instances they had apparently been placed in the windows just as a matter of form to denote the season of the year. All the people seemed purchasers. Every shop was filled, from the large grocery establishment with its next door neighbour, the drapery warehouse, down to the tiny toy room, where the smallest of articles were sold at the lowest of prices. In every place of business the attendants had a busy time all through the night.

ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL.

The service at St. Andrew's Cathedral last evening was somewhat of a departure from what has been the vogue on previous Christmas Eves. The evensong was almost dispensed with, and in its place several of the numbers from the first part of the "Messiah" were sung by a fairly large choir. The service opened with the old familiar Christmas hymn, "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing," which was given with very fine effect. Following came the carols "Ring Out, Ring Out a Joyful Peal" and "Lo! Within a Manger Lies," the treble solo in the latter being sung by Master F. Harris. The selections from the "Messiah" included the tenor recit. and air, "Comfort Ye" and "Every Valley," given by Mr. Percy Bates, and the subsequent chorus, "And the Glory." Mr. B. L. Taylor took the bass recit. and air, "For Behold Darkness" and "The People that Walk in Darkness," and the chorus "For Unto Us" followed. The prayers for the evening were intoned by the Precentor, the Rev. P. J. Simpson, and the service closed with the singing of several carols. In the absence of Mr. Montague Younger, Miss Wilkinson presided at the organ.

ST. VINCENT'S SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF THE POOR.

The annual distribution of goods to the poor was made yesterday, in St. Vincent's Convent, Victoria-street, by the members of St. Vincent's Society for the Relief of the Poor, which works separately from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and which takes its name from the convent with which it is associated. Over 300 families received full orders, consisting of tea, sugar, flour, cake, currants, plums, eggs, soap, candles, toys, lollies, vegetables, fruit, candied peel, and biscuits. Mrs. T. M. Slattery, the president of the society, had charge of the distribution, and she was assisted by Miss Lila Jarrett, the hon. treasurer, Miss Slattery, and Master Slattery. All the articles were the gift of warehousemen and other friends, and some contributed money. Besides the families mentioned above, about 200 received supplies somewhat below those stated.

CENTRAL METHODIST MISSION.

The superintendent of the above mission reports that the response to the appeal made by the mission this year to enable them to present their annual Christmas gifts to the poor has been exceptionally generous, the donations received from the country as well as from the city being more numerous and larger than in previous years. In order that the distribution of gifts might be successfully carried out a vacant warehouse in Clarence-street was placed at the disposal of the mission by the owners, and at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon a crowd of the poor, representing about 200 families, had been attracted to the warehouse by means of tickets which had been distributed during last week by the sisters of the mission. For a crowd so representative of the poor of Sydney the interior of the warehouse presented a most cheering appearance. Piles of beef, 20 properly-dressed sheep, large quantities of vegetables, groceries, bacon, bread, and all the essentials of a substantial Christmas dinner, were displayed in the spacious room, and arranged so that the distribution might take place in an orderly manner and promptly. The Rev. R. Bavin delivered a short address to the gathering. He expressed his personal gratification at being able, through the kindness and generosity of a number of friends, to come again to the assistance of the poor. He reminded them that there could be no Christmas without Christ. He wished them a happy Christmas. (Applause.) Mr. Hutchinson, evangelist, and the whole staff of the mission, then assisted the superintendent to carry out the distribution of gifts. The Rev. J. K. Turner (colleague of the superintendent in the mission), assisted by a contingent from the central staff, carried out the distribution to the Balmain division in the Mission Hall, Harris-street, yesterday afternoon.

SUSSEX-STREET MISSION.

As the result of the inquiries that have been made by Mr. George Lewis and his band of assistants, last night 300 who had received orders for Christmas fare assembled in the Mission Church. Mr. Lewis presided, and referred to the hard times that all were experiencing, and the severe season of absolute want through which they were passing. The gifts, which had been parcelled out, and which consisted of the essentials for a liberal Christmas dinner, were then distributed.

CITY MISSION.

For the Christmas distribution of gifts the mode adopted by the missionaries now for many years, and found to work well, has been to supply various poor families personally known to the missionaries as such with orders upon local grocers and butchers for materials to make a plain Christmas dinner. This year the missionaries have had a busier time than usual, and have been quite unable to give beyond the cases they actually knew. These numbered 1750, representing about 6000 individuals. As the union covers the whole of the metropolitan area beside the adjoining districts, it will be seen that the distribution has been thorough. Each order represented 5s in value. The secretary informs us that funds have not come in as liberally as in previous years, and this want has retarded the work.

SALVATION ARMY.

Usually Tuesday night at the Salvation Army barracks is devoted to a soldiers' meeting, but in consequence of Christmas the meeting last night was thrown open to the public and every effort was made to obtain a congregation from the crowded streets. Adjutant Baird was in charge, and, with a full staff of officers, many exhortations issued from the platform imploring those who were not already saved to come to the penitent form.

HOME OF HOPE.

The arrangements to celebrate the Christmas season at the Home of Hope were not concluded yesterday, the inmates of the institution being busy in finishing the laundry work before the ceremonies of the festival properly commenced. When a *Herald* reporter visited the Home last night a number of the girls were busily engaged in decorating the main dining-hall and the reception-room with foliage and flags, while some were ingeniously working in leaves some mottoes and scriptural texts. Several visitors called at the Home yesterday and brought gifts for the girls. To-day, when the decoration of the rooms is completed, the establishment will be thrown open for inspection by the public. The number of inmates of the Home is less than it has been for some time past, being 48 women and 37 children. This is due to the large number which has been sent to service at private establishments during the past month. A special dinner is to be provided to-day, and arrangements have been made to invite former inmates of the institution to tea on Boxing Night. It has also been arranged to hold an evening meeting to-morrow, at which prizes will be presented to inmates as encouragement for good conduct.

THE SOUP KITCHEN.

The scene at the City Night Refuge and Soup Kitchen in Kent-street was not an unusual one last evening; in fact, there was a considerable decrease in the number of applicants for admission. This admirable institution, which has afforded relief during its existence to some tens of thousands of the deserving destitute, has accommodation for 146 men, but last evening only 75 of the beds were occupied. This is encouraging, for a glance at the books shows that on Christmas Eve last year, when the accommodation was not so large, no less than 139 men sought admission for the night. The men began to assemble outside the kitchen at 5 o'clock, and half an hour later the gates were closed. The reasons given for the apparently better state of things is that a large number of the men have availed themselves of the hospitality of the Government in granting rations and rent coupons on the relief works, whilst numbers of others prefer, on a close night, to sleep in the open air. For some weeks past one of the two large dormitories of the institution has been entirely unoccupied, and advantage of this unusual state of affairs has been taken to thoroughly cleanse the beds and bedding. Mr. H. Talkes, the manager, with his large staff of assistants, was busily engaged throughout last evening and night in decorating the spacious dining-hall for this afternoon's Christmas feast to the poor, when over 400 are expected.

TRAM TRAFFIC.

Late last night the officers of the Tramway department made an encouraging statement of the amount of traffic yesterday. As compared with last year the results were most favourable. The size of the teams had been increased by the addition of a car, and special trams were run to Botany, Leichhardt, and Waterloo. These were necessitated by the extra amount of traffic. Exceptionally full carloads of people were brought from Botany and Balmain.

REDFERN RAILWAY STATION.

Although the crush was great at Redfern railway station yesterday afternoon and evening little inconvenience was experienced by travellers. Excellent order was preserved, and all the trains were able to leave according to the time-table. There was a slight improvement in the volume of traffic compared with Christmas Eve last year.

AQUATICS.

THE GRAFTON REGATTA.

A crew from the Enterprise Rowing Club will travel to Grafton on Saturday next to take part in a four-oared race on the Clarence, in connection with the Caledonian sports to be held there on New Year's Day. The prize is £50 and a side wager of £30. The crew consists of J. Wray, 12st 4lb; R. Bishop, 12st 10lb; H. Bourne, 11st; T. Carter, 10st. A boat built for the B Globe Club will probably be used.

ANNIVERSARY REGATTA.

The full programme for the Anniversary Regatta has been issued by the hon. secretaries, Messrs. W. C. Shipway and W. T. Woods, and it will be advertised in due course. Entries will close at the committee-rooms, Bell's-chambers, No. 131 Pitt-street, on Saturday night, 18th January.

THE Cheapest, Best, and only sure way to Preserve Fruit is with Anti-Fermentine. For Sale by all Storekeepers.—(ADVT.)

AMUSEMENTS.

THE BROUGH-BOUCICAULT COMPANY.

The members of the Brough-Boucicault Comedy Company arrived in Sydney from New Zealand by the Talune just after midnight on Monday. They were hardly expected before yesterday morning; but in place of the gales and rough seas predicted by weather prophets, the voyage was delightfully calm and pleasant. With two days' rest before them the members of the company should be in fine cue for the opening of the season at the Lyceum Theatre, which, as already notified, will be initiated to-morrow by a revival of "The Amazons." Playgoers here will not fail to remember that since they last appeared in Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Brough have visited Europe. Their last appearance here was at the Lyceum Theatre on 8th March in "Niobe," and two days later they journeyed overland so as to sail from Adelaide by the Austral, thus reaching London quite early in the season. Mr. Brough originally left England for Australia in 1885, and though business took him home the following year, he spent but a few weeks in England. There were thus many old friendships to renew and many fresh impressions to acquire. Mr. and Mrs. Brough made the most of their opportunity, and during their three months in London there were but few nights spent otherwhere than at opera or playhouse. Mrs. Brough made no stage appearance, partly because her visit was essentially for rest and recreation, partly because the necessity of early return would have rendered negotiations futile. As a matter of fact, a straight-out offer to appear under Mr. Hare's management at the Garrick had to be reluctantly declined. All the time Mr. Brough was suffering from the nervous prostration induced by overwork in Australia, so that to him the most restful part of the holiday was that spent amidst the tranquillising Alpine scenes of the Engadine.

As regards his past experiences and future plans, Mr. Brough is not unwilling to speak. Questioned as to the style of acting in London, he said:—"I can do little but repeat as the result of my own close observation the remarks which others have doubtless made before me. The old school of sound, well-studied acting is almost dead in London. Henry Irving surrounds himself with good all-round actors, who assist him in sustaining the prestige of the Lyceum in this respect; but where else do you find the grand old traditions of the British stage upheld? At the comedy theatres the acting seems to lack life. I am not speaking now of the heads, like Wyndham, Hare, and the like, but of the 'support.' The new principle which is all the rage in London is to secure people who 'look the part' and then drill them in the A B C of their art. Mr. Pinero has had the talent and insight, or good luck, to make some successes for his comedies in this way, but no other playwright or manager is much of a hand at it, and at best it is poor work. Since I left London the production of 'Trilby' has exactly illustrated what I mean. Why, they engaged young Mr. Evans simply because he was the original 'Little Billee' of Mr. Du Maurier's sketches, with the result that they have at last had to replace him. However, this is a subject which cannot be profitably treated in the few lines to which my remarks are necessarily limited. As to new plays I saw very few worth buying; but I secured the best, in addition to carefully reading more than 50 by well-known authors, none of which I liked—an opinion justified so far by successive failures, news of which has reached me since I sailed. The list of pieces new to Sydney will include—'The Importance of Being Earnest' and 'A Woman of No Importance,' Pinero's latest comedy 'The Benefit of the Doubt,' Haddon Chambers' 'John-a-Dreams,' and 'Her Advocate,' the drama which Mr. Cartwright has just staged with so much success at the Duke of Yorks Theatre. All these pieces may be more or less accurately described as serious plays. We also have a very smartly written farcical comedy, entitled 'The Passport,' which quite took my fancy when I saw it at Terry's Theatre; and 'Thoroughbred,' produced at Toole's Theatre during our stay in London. We have the rights of 'The Fool of the Family,' a new piece, by Fergus Hume, which Mr. Cartwright will shortly produce, as well as another unplayed piece, 'The Haven of Content.' This play is written by a rising man, Malcolm Watson, of the *St. James's Gazette*, to wit; and I have a high opinion of it and of him. Our little list probably includes other plays, but those are the principal."

"Our season at the Lyceum will be limited to seven weeks, as we are then due in Melbourne. We open to-morrow with 'The Amazons,' followed by two-night revivals, chiefly to suit holiday visitors. Mr. Boucicault and myself feel, however, that in any case a night or two with old favourites should prove popular. Then, on Saturday week we shall tap our spring of new works by drawing off 'John-a-Dreams.' Our New Zealand tour was a great success, and we found the people as kind and hospitable as ever. The only unfortunate incidents were an injury to Mr. Alec Mayne, who fell down an unprotected trap and broke his ancle, and a sousing in the River Avon (Christchurch) of which Mrs. Brough was the victim. We had just come in from a leisurely pull and she was getting out of the boat when it upset. I was a bit frightened because she can't swim, but I got her safely to the bank, and we were just crawling up it like drowned rats when our eyes fell upon a severe-looking notice-board—'No Bathing Allowed.' This ironical remark was, so to speak, 'shouted at us' in huge letters, and the comic side to the adventure striking us both at the same moment we enjoyed a hearty laugh. We look forward to our stay in Sydney with great pleasure, and I may add that on our return from England, when we landed in Australia, we quite felt 'This is home.'"

HER MAJESTY'S.—"ROBINSON CRUSOE."

"Robinson Crusoe," the new pantomime at Her Majesty's Theatre, was performed before a large audience last night. Mr. Bert Royle, the author of the book, opened the story in the genuine pantomime fashion in Fairy Land, and the first scene, in which children dressed as elves hammered miniature anvils with little golden hammers, thus marking the rhythm of a sparkling choral number, gave a bright send-off to the Christmas entertainment. However, the anticipations of vivacity thus excited were doomed to disappointment, as it soon became apparent that the "first night" representation was to prove little better than a full-dress rehearsal. The fault of the pantomime in last night's elongated condition was a plentiful lack of "features." This effect of level mediocrity should have been removed by the transformation scene. How many Christmas pieces have been saved by a brilliant transformation scene! But though Messrs. Kinchela and Ricketts had painted more than one tableau which told with the audience, those who waited until 11.45 o'clock for "The Home of the Naiads" saw nothing to approach the ingenuity and splendour which through a long course of years have made famous the names of Brunton and Gordon. Still, it is long since the story has been treated in this part of the world, Messrs. Marshall and Woods have further some clever people in their company, and with a glorious margin of an hour and a half for wholesale excision the management will work wonders with their new piece between now and Boxing Night.

At the Fairy Forge, rising behind a dazzling background, is seen the Fairy Queen, in the person of Miss Lilla Wilde, a gracious and dignified Sovereign, who speaks her lines with admirable weight and discretion. The forces of Evil are called up, and Mr. Alfred Woods appears as a jocular and withal personable Demon King Depression. The change to Earth places the spectators in the heart of a brilliant nautical scene on the banks of the Thames, a decidedly pretty picture, with the quay crowded with sailor lads and lasses in gay attire. Here are duly introduced a number of characters—Mr. Frank Sceats as a jocund, bibulous tar, and the chief low comedians, Mr. Harry Leston as a stately, hard-featured, red-haired Mrs. Crusoe, and Mr. Bobby Watson as the loquacious, irrepressible Mr. Crusoe. The first duet of the Crusoes may hereafter be cut short in order to bring on the principal boy a little sooner, but both artists make successes during the evening. Mr. Leston joined with his partner in the smart topical song, "Next Please," and there was another encore for Mr. Watson's serio-comic "Can't Stop." A pretty children's ballet was encored at this point, though the orchestral accompaniment was scored in primitive fashion with too much drum and trombone. Mr. Frank Eugarde should tone down his orchestral effects, which are too often monotonously noisy. The story moved on more briskly, however, with the advent of Robinson Crusoe. Miss Marie Luella is not absolutely a stranger here, but playgoers of the regular theatres have yet to make her acquaintance, and they will certainly find her one of the principal attractions of the new piece. Miss Luella, who is "more than common tall," made an imposing stage figure in her costume of dove-grey and auburn locks, and in her first song, "Isabella," she proved the possessor of a ringing mezzo-soprano voice, with a remarkably strong chest register. "Isabella," which is a taking song with a good chorus, was promptly encored. However, the singer, whose "robustious" style was exactly suited to the occasion, was still better suited by "The Idol of my Dream" (encored), a melodious number with a charming refrain. This ballad celebrated the hero's embarkation, storm music followed, a glimpse of the ship half-submerged in the breakers was afforded by the flashing lightning, and then a rapid change showed the Island of Juan Fernandez. This glowing tropical view of waves thrown back from the verdant cliffs upon the golden strand, all bathed in the rosy light of the rising sun, was entirely successful, and the hearty applause was well deserved. Here an amusing cannibal dance found favour with the audience, and Mr. William Gourlay, grotesquely made up as Friday, showed sprightly grace in his weird measure. Miss Edith Moore enters as the Princess Mizpah, radiant in Persian attire, and sings "I am Waiting, my Love, for Thee." Miss Moore was heartily encored, and doubtless in a night or two will gauge the size of the theatre, and then, being an artiste of considerable operatic experience will ensure accurate intonation by not forcing the voice as she did last night. The song in the second act, "O, Answer Me a Question," was a little "out of the picture," savouring too much of the concert-room, though it was nicely rendered. The hero, in the traditional goatskin dress, rescues the princess, and incidentally sings "Hear What the Sweet Bells say"—a tuneful piece, with an effective invisible chorus. Miss Luella has a better song in the third Act, "Dinah Do," which went with a swing that made it one of the best pieces in the burlesque. In the third act Miss Amy Gourlay, who plays and sings throughout with spirit, putting such life as may be into commonplace lines, appears in crimson and black to dance a graceful measure with Friday; but the noisy burlesque on singing between Friday and Saturday, which follows later, would be better omitted. The Trilby Ballet, a somewhat suggestive dance, in which loose robes display pink fleshings "caught on" at once, and there was a determined encore. The music was, nevertheless, too heavy in its character, flutes and reeds and the lighter tones being scarcely audible. The Elephantine Caves, in the mazes of which the Demon King involves the hero and heroine, furnished a trap-act by Martini and Les Tines and the Fausts, which should prove popular. In the last act the Rajah of Chimpanzee rules over his Eastern Court, and finally consents to the marriage of his daughter with Robinson Crusoe. Thus without any further noticeable incidents—beyond a pretty cymbal ballet—the fairy story is brought to a close. The harlequinade by Messrs. Tom Cosgrove and Charles Woods came on too late for review. It will be seen that "Robinson Crusoe" needs considerable revision, and this no doubt it will have before the Boxing Night performance.

THEATRE ROYAL.

The Theatre Royal will remain closed this evening, but to-morrow the successful run of the new musical comedy, "Pat, or the Bells of Rathbeal," will be continued. Mr. Westmacott has surrounded himself with a capable band of artists, and Messrs. Shine, Sweeney, and Foley, Misses Florrie Forde, Minna Phillips, the Anderson Sisters, and Miss Beanie Gellatley are amongst those who help forward an Irish comedy plentifully spiced with variety "alarums and excursions."

CRITERION THEATRE.

Pollard's Lilliputian Opera Company, which is now in the fifth year of its continued existence, will open their season at the Criterion Theatre to-morrow night. Andrau's sparkling opera, "Olivette," will then be produced under Mr. Pollard's direction, with new wardrobe, scenery, and effects. The plan is at Nicholson's.

TIVOLI THEATRE.

There will be a special concert programme at the Tivoli Theatre to-night, whilst on Boxing Night there will be an entirely new holiday change. Miss Alice Leamar, Miss Daisy Chard, Mr. J. W. Winton, Messrs. Pope and Sayles, and other popular members of the company will appear.

RANDWICK ASYLUM.

On Monday evening, Alderman David Davis, of Woollahra, gave the children at the above institution a Christmas treat in the form of a lantern lecture; the first part of which was illustrative of his recent travels in Europe, and the second of the exploits of the most popular heroes of "Wonderland." The children present numbered nearly 200; and there was a large attendance of the prominent residents of Randwick and Woollahra, with the juvenile members of their families, among the visitors being Messrs. John See, M.L.A., A. W. Meeks, J.P., Aldermen Forsyth, Raffan, Scott, and Kennedy. The children were, of course, delighted with the marvels of the limelight pictures, but more particularly with the comic sketches, which evoked peals of laughter; the adults seemingly enjoying the fun fully as much as their juniors. On the conclusion of the entertainment each boy and girl was presented with a Santa Claus bag, containing cake, confectionery, and Christmas cards, the gift of Alderman Davis. During the proceedings the children rendered glees and part songs, while Messrs. Ridges and Creed enlivened them with excellent selections on the violin and pianoforte.

SEAMEN'S CONCERT.

In the Mariners' Church, George-street North, on Monday night, the annual Christmas tea to seamen was given to about 170 of the men, and the chair was occupied by the Primate. Among those who were also present were the Revs. T. Morgan (the chaplain), Noake, and Abbott, Captain Castle, R.N., Captain Sir Henry Ogle, Bart., R.N., Messrs. Moss (lay missionary), Shearston (of the Royal Naval Home), and others. The tables were presided over by Miss Snowdon Smith, Mrs. Castle, Miss Knox, Mrs. Scot-Skirving, Mrs. Broomfield, Miss Cameron, Mrs. Drinan, Miss Violette, Miss Fisher, Miss Fairfax, Mrs. Logan, and Mrs. Weston. A concert followed the tea, and among those who took part were Mr. T. H. Rainford, Mrs. Barry, Mr. Gooch, Miss Williamson, Miss Windeyer, Mrs. Drinan, Mrs. Prince, Miss Rita Macdonald, Mrs. Hagon, and a number of seamen.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

The following are the results of the University annual examinations so far as the results have yet been declared:—

FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION.

Passed.—Katie E. Hogg, B.A., A. J. Blue, W. F. Burfitt, B.A., S. B. Burge, H. Busby, G. R. C. Clarke, N. W. Hansard, W. E. Harris, H. G. Holmes, H. J. P. Knight, H. H. Lee, G. J. Lees, G. M'Lean, W. R. Oliver, E. O. Pockley, E. R. Roseby, V. W. Savage, F. S. Tange, F. W. Webb.

CLASS LISTS.

Physics.—Honours—Class 1: W. F. Burfitt, B.A., W. E. Harris. Class 2: H. G. Holmes, F. W. Webb, G. Lees.

Biology.—Honours—Class 1: W. F. Burfitt, B.A. Class 2: W. G. Woolnough (science), H. G. Holmes, G. Lees.

Chemistry.—Honours—Class 1: W. F. Burfitt. Class 2: A. J. Blue, H. J. P. Knight. Pass: H. Busby, H. G. Holmes, G. J. Lees, G. M'Lean, N. W. Hansard, G. R. C. Clarke and E. O. Pockley æq., E. R. Roseby, Katie E. Hogg, B.A., F. S. Tange, W. E. Harris, F. W. Webb, S. B. Burge, W. R. Oliver, V. W. Savage.

Renwick Scholarship.—W. F. Burfitt, B.A.

Collie Prize for Botany.—W. F. Burfitt, B.A.

Haswell Prize for Zoology.—W. G. Woolnough; prox. acc., W. F. Burfitt, B.A.

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION.

Passed.—G. F. Brade, H. J. W. Brennand, R. L. Davies, E. W. Fairfax, R. C. Forster, W. C. Huggart, A. A. King, E. Ludowici, J. Mackenzie, D. A. D. MacMaster, G. G. Old, J. W. Paton, F. P. Sandes, C. S. Willis, J. C. Windeyer, T. G. Wilson.

ORDER OF MERIT IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS.

Physiology.—F. P. Sandes, J. C. Windeyer, C. S. Willis, T. G. Wilson, H. J. W. Brennand and E. Ludowici æq., J. Mackenzie, R. L. Davies, D. A. D. MacMaster, E. W. Fairfax, W. C. Huggart and G. G. Old, æq.; G. T. Brade, A. A. King, and J. W. Paton, æq.; R. C. Forster.

Anatomy.—F. P. Sandes, E. Ludowici, D. A. D. MacMaster, J. C. Windeyer, E. W. Fairfax, C. S. Willis, J. Mackenzie, W. C. Huggart, R. C. Forster, T. G. Wilson, H. J. W. Brennand, R. L. Davies, G. F. Brade, G. G. Old, A. A. King, J. W. Paton.

FIRST AND SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION.

Organic Chemistry.—Honours, Class I.: E. Ludowici, F. P. Sandes. Class II.: H. J. W. Brennand. Passed: E. W. Fairfax, H. J. P. Knight, T. G. Wilson, J. C. Windeyer, J. Mackenzie, C. S. Willis, Agnes E. L. Bennett, B.Sc., H. G. Holmes, G. F. Brade, H. B. Gritton, A. A. King, W. F. Burfitt, B.A., D. A. D. MacMaster, H. Busby, R. L. Davies, C. Walker, Katie E. Hogg, B.A., G. G. Old, Sarah O. Brennan, M.A., W. C. Huggart, R. C. Forster, J. W. Paton.

THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION.

Passed with high distinction: J. Macpherson, M.A. Passed with credit: E. C. Hall, L. E. Ellis, N. W. Kater; H. S. Stacy and H. Z. Throsby, æq.

Passed (alphabetical): C. V. Bowker, H. R. Cope, H. C. Delohery, J. T. Farrelly, T. W. Lipscombe, J. M. Roe, H. Sheldon, L. H. Shorter.

John Harris Scholarship for Anatomy and Physiology.—John Macpherson, M.A.

ORDER OF MERIT IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS.

Materia Medica.—J. Macpherson, M.A. (Dr. Dixson's prize), E. C. Hall, L. E. Ellis, H. Z. Throsby, H. Sheldon, H. S. Stacy, H. R. Cope, N. W. Kater, J. M. Roe.

Physiology.—J. Macpherson, M.A., N. W. Kater, H. Z. Throsby, E. C. Hall, L. E. Ellis, H. S. Stacy, J. M. Roe, L. H. Shorter, H. Sheldon, C. V. Bowker, H. R. Cope, H. C. Delohery, T. W. Lipscombe, J. T. Farrelly.

Anatomy.—J. Macpherson, M.A., N. W. Kater, H. S. Stacy, L. H. Shorter, L. E. Ellis, E. C. Hall, H. C. Delohery, H. Z. Throsby, T. W. Lipscombe, H. Sheldon, C. V. Bowker, J. T. Farrelly, J. M. Roe, H. R. Cope.

FOURTH YEAR EXAMINATION.

Passed with Distinction: G. P. Dixon. Passed with credit: E. M. Pain, W. H. Harris. Passed (alphabetical): Harriett E. Biffin, E. H. Barnes, G. H. Bohrsmann, G. H. Broinowski, J. I. C. Cosh, R. M. Farrell, J. J. O'Keeffe, H. Terry, J. L. Wassell.

ORDER OF MERIT IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS.

Pathology: G. P. Dixon, E. M. Pain, W. H. Harris, J. L. Wassell, H. Terry; G. H. Broinowski and Harriett E. Biffin, æq.; J. I. C. Cosh, E. H. Barnes, G. H. Bohrsmann, J. J. O'Keeffe, R. M. Farrell.

Materia Medica: G. P. Dixon; E. M. Pain and W. H. Harris, æq.; J. L. Wassell and R. M. Farrell, æq.; G. H. Broinowski; Harriet E. Biffin and H. Terry, æq.; G. H. Bohrsmann, E. H. Barnes, J. I. C. Cosh, J. J. O'Keeffe.

FIFTH YEAR EXAMINATION.

Passed with credit: E. H. Burkitt, J. C. Halliday, G. D. Menzies, W. C. M'Lelland, G. H. B. Deck, F. S. W. Zlotkowski, R. B. Wade, W. A. Conlon, B.A., E. H. Robison, S. Sheldon, B.Sc. Passed (alphabetical): H. G. Bennetts, A. J. S. Crawley, N. J. Dunlop, B.A., L. H. L. Harris, A. Kethel, A. C. O'Connor.

ORDER OF MERIT IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS.

Medicine.—J. C. Halliday; W. C. M'Clelland and G. D. Menzies, æq.; S. Sheldon, B.Sc., E. H. Burkitt, W. A. Conlon, B.A.; F. S. W. Zlotkowski and H. G. Bennetts, æq.; G. H. B. Deck, N. J. Dunlop, B.A., A. C. O'Connor, R. B. Wade; L. H. L. Harris and A. Kethel, æq.; E. H. Robison, A. J. St. C. Crawley.

Clinical Medicine.—G. H. B. Deck and E. H. Burkitt, æq.; F. S. W. Zlotkowski; W. C. M'Clelland, R. B. Wade, and G. D. Menzies, æq.; J. C. Halliday, W. A. Conlon, B.A., E. H. Robison, A. Kethel, H. G. Bennetts, L. H. L. Harris, A. J. St. C. Crawley, S. Sheldon, B.Sc., N. J. Dunlop, B.A., A. C. O'Connor.

Midwifery.—G. H. B. Deck, H. G. Bennetts; L. H. L. Harris and F. S. W. Zlotkowski, æq.; W. A. Conlon, B.A., and E. H. Robison, æq.; E. H. Burkitt, J. C. Halliday, and R. B. Wade, æq.; W. C. M'Clelland and G. D. Menzies, æq.; N. J. Dunlop, B.A., A. Kethel, A. J. St. C. Crawley, A. C. O'Connor, S. Sheldon, B.Sc.

Surgery.—J. C. Halliday, N. J. Dunlop, B.A., W. A. Conlon, B.A., R. B. Wade, and F. S. W. Zlotkowski, æq.; E. H. Robison; L. H. L. Harris and G. D. Menzies, æq.; A. Kethel, E. H. Burkitt, G. H. B. Deck, W. C. M'Clelland, B.Sc., A. C. O'Connor, S. Sheldon, B.Sc., A. J. St. C. Crawley, H. G. Bennetts.

Clinical Surgery.—G. H. B. Deck, W. C. M'Clelland, W. A. Conlon, B.A.; A. Kethel and S. Sheldon, B.Sc., æq.; E. H. Burkitt, G. D. Menzies; L. H. L. Harris, R. B. Wade, and F. S. W. Zlotkowski, æq.; A. C. O'Connor, N. J. Dunlop, B.A.; J. C. Halliday and E. H. Robison, æq.; H. G. Bennetts, A. J. St. C. Crawley.

Psychological Medicine.—E. H. Burkitt, J. C. Halliday; A. Kethel, W. C. M'Clelland, F. S. W. Zlotkowski, and G. D. Menzies, æq.; R. B. Wade, L. H. L. Harris, E. H. Robison, S. Sheldon, B.Sc., H. G. Bennetts, W. A. Conlon, B.A., A. C. O'Connor, G. H. B. Deck, A. J. St. C. Crawley, N. J. Dunlop, B.A.

Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health.—E. H. Burkitt and J. C. Halliday, æq.; E. H. Robison; G. D. Menzies and S. Sheldon, B.Sc., æq.; R. B. Wade, W. C. M'Clelland; W. A. Conlon, B.A., and N. J. Dunlop, B.A., æq.; G. H. B. Deck and A. C. O'Connor, æq.; A. J. St. C. Crawley and F. S. W. Zlotkowski, æq.; L. H. L. Harris, H. G. Bennetts.

Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery.—J. C. Halliday, E. H. Burkitt; E. H. Robison and R. B. Wade, æq.; G. D. Menzies, L. H. L. Harris; G. H. B. Deck, W. C. M'Clelland, and S. Sheldon, B.Sc., æq.; W. A. Conlon, B.A., F. S. W. Zlotkowski; H. G. Bennetts and A. C. O'Connor, æq.; A. Kethel, A. J. St. C. Crawley, N. J. Dunlop.

Beaten at yachting, beaten at the athletic sports, still the old country (says the *St. James's Gazette*) has at last scored a winning point against America in rowing. Cornell was no more easily defeated at Henley than were the American pair for the World's Double Sculling Championship at Austin (Texas) yesterday. The English oarsmen, Bubear and Barry, won decisively and made a new world's record. Well, this is something. Professional sculling had been thought to be about our weakest point; perhaps more attention will be paid to it now.

ARNOLD'S INK.—The Best, Permanent, No Sediment. Highest award Chicago, 1893. Ask for it.—[ADVT.]

YOUR Fruits will not spoil if you use Anti-Fermentine. For Sale by all Storekeepers.—[ADVT.]

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

THE TURF.

The Lillie Bridge Christmas Pony Racing Carnival commences this afternoon, and promises to be as successful as its predecessors. There are six races on the programme, and the first race is timed for 3 o'clock. A special tram service will be at the disposal of visitors, and 'buses will also run to and from the course.

Oxley, Tenandra, and Adaminaby race meetings were yesterday granted registration by the A.J.C.

The following scratchings were yesterday notified at the office of the club in connection with the A.J.C. Summer Meeting:—Hurdle Race: Faux Pas and Fright. Villiers Stakes: Finis. Trial Stakes: The Skipper and Jersey Lily. Highweight Handicap: The Skipper and Finis. A.J.C. Handicap: Chesterman and Confidence. All engagements: Blue Peter. Nursery Handicap: Aquilla; and Steeplechase: Albert.

The adjustments for the Rosebery Park Pony and Galloway Meeting are set forth in another part of this paper.

It must not be forgotten that entries for the following events on the card for the Kensington pony and galloway fixture of Monday next must be lodged with the secretary, Mr. P. O'Mara, before 5 p.m. on Friday next:—Trial Stakes (15.0), a handicap of 25 sovs., 4½ furlongs; Fourteen-one Handicap of 25 sovs., 5 furlongs; Fourteen-three Welter Handicap of 25 sovs., lowest weight 7st 7lb, 5 furlongs; Fourteen Hands Handicap of 20 sovs., 4 furlongs; Fourteen-two Handicap of 25 sovs., 5½ furlongs; Kensington Handicap (15.0) of 30 sovs., 6 furlongs.

It was cool and cloudy at Randwick yesterday morning, and a heavy dew was falling. Le Var and Roban were the first couple to appear, and the colt had a trifle the better of a bout of five furlongs in 1 minute 8 seconds. Reward was two lengths better than Jersey Lily at the end of five furlongs, run in 1 minute 9 seconds. The Trier rattled once round in 2 minutes 38 seconds. Pastille picked him up at the seven furlongs post, but he beat her home by four lengths. Akarina got home four lengths before Bliss over six furlongs, in 1 minute 21½ seconds; and Dalmeny beat Malachite and Ayr Laddie by two lengths at the end of a merry three-quarters of a mile, covered in the same time. Couralllie, with Jas. Gough in the saddle, ran a circuit in 2 minutes 36½ seconds, and he was assisted by Amiable over the last five furlongs, and finished remarkably well. Mosaic got a companion into trouble over five furlongs in 1 minute 8½ seconds, and Blazon beat Urana by two lengths over three-quarters of a mile in 1 minute 24 seconds. To Whiti was three lengths in front of Rewi at the business end of a round, negotiated in 2 minutes 40 seconds. The Roe put up the morning's record for six furlongs by beating Pharamond in 1 minute 20 seconds. Aures went about six furlongs; while Cravat had more to say than Coolalta at six furlongs in 1 minute 23 seconds. Huret, with Parker up, and Vigilance, piloted by Durston, dashed over five furlongs in 1 minute 7 seconds; and there was only a neck between them at the finish. Response, assisted by Ilchester and Havana, completed a round in 2 minutes 38 seconds; and Acmena, led by her mate, Confidence, put in a mile and a quarter at a good working pace. Vagabond beat Rockwall by a neck at six furlongs in 1 minute 24 seconds, and Mahee, ridden by Martin Gallagher, defeated Woodford by 20 lengths, and Cooee by 40 lengths, in once round, run in 2 minutes 38½ seconds. Gozoreena was some 10 lengths in front of Jack o' Lantern and Ethelbert at the wind up of once round in 2 minutes 38½ seconds. Nobleman, with Gainsford up, ran the circle in 2 minutes 37½ seconds, but did not finish too well. Babel gave Yellow Plush six lengths' start and beat him by half a length over six furlongs in 1 minute 21½ seconds. Inspiration and True Blue were together at the end of a mile in 1 minute 53½ seconds, and Scotch Lassie beat Fort and Sundial most decisively in a mile gallop in 1 minute 50 seconds. Aureus took part in the bout, but was beaten off. The Sketch, ridden out, went once round in 2 minutes 42 seconds; and Buccleugh was six lengths better than the Bogie Man at six furlongs in 1 minute 22½ seconds. Ariki sadly troubled H. D. and another over six furlongs in 1 minute 9 seconds. Juvenile and Liena each performed a solo over the schooling hurdles, and a great number of others also worked.

Finis out of the Carrington Stakes and Brocklesby out of Tattersall's Cup were the scratchings notified yesterday in connection with the Tattersall's Club annual meeting.

A movement in favour of Fort for the A.J.C. Summer Cup was made in the local betting market yesterday, when the speedy son of Gibraltar was backed to win between £2000 and £3000, commencing at 100 to 8, and leaving off at 100 to 12, the latter price being on offer. Couralllie was backed to win a fair stake at 100 to 10, with more wanted at that figure, and there were many inquiries for Acmena, but no business resulted.

V.A.T.C. COMMITTEE MEETING.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

A special meeting of the committee of the V.A.T.C. was held to-day to deal with the resignation of Mr. Arthur Anderson as vice-chairman and as a member of the committee. It was decided to accept the resignation.

MELBOURNE SPORTING.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

The names of Thunder Queen and Birksgate have been included in the list of entries for the V.A.T.C. February Meeting. The former has been nominated for the Oakleigh Plate and Purse, and the latter for the Autumn Cup. The entries of these horses were taken in Adelaide.

NEW ENGLAND JOCKEY CLUB.

ARMIDALE, Tuesday.

The annual meeting of the New England Jockey Club was held last night. It was decided to hold the annual races on the 5th and 6th of February. There was a good credit balance, and the affairs of the club are very prosperous. The officers were appointed for the ensuing year.

AUSTRALIAN JOCKEY CLUB SUMMER MEETING.

The following weights were declared yesterday for the

STEEPLECHASE—about 2¼ miles.

	st	lb		st	lb		st	lb
Ballyhooley	11	12	Glad-tone	10	1	Daisy Bell	9	3
Havana	11	8	Reckless	9	13	St. Ilario	9	2
Albert	11	6	Bernal	9	10	Mich. Davitt	9	0
Sneezer	11	3	King	9	8			

KENSINGTON PONY AND GALLOWAY RACES.

Fine and seasonably warm weather was experienced by visitors to Kensington yesterday, and the attendance was up to the average. The card was run through without mishap, and with the following result:—

FIFTEEN HANDS HANDICAP of 25 sovs., 5 furlongs.—W. Gullum's b m Gavet, 4 years, 7st 8lb (J. Walker), 1; J. Phair's b m Geneva, 5 years, 7st 8lb (Cornish), 2; C. Peters ns br m Warning, 5 years, 7st 8lb (Phillips), 3. Other starters: Cinder Ellen, 8st 12lb; Jimmy, 8st 11lb; Princess, 8st; Bullion, 7st 5lb; Satan, 7st; Sinking Fund, 6st 7lb. Betting: Even money on Sinking Fund, 4 to 1 v. Geneva, 7 to 1 v. Warning, 8 to 1 v. Jimmy, 10 to 1 v. others. Won by a neck, a head between second and third. Time, 1 minute 5 seconds.

FOURTEEN HANDS HANDICAP of 25 sovs., 4½ furlongs.—F. M'Carty's b h G.H., 4 years, 8st 10lb (Yeomans), 1; W. Finn ns b m Novice, 4 years, 7st 2lb (M'Dougall), 2; C. Peters ns b m Deceiver, aged, 6st 10lb (Henry), 3. Other starters: Stormy, 9st 2lb; Alina, 6st 7lb. Betting: 6 to 4 on G.H., 4 to 1 v. Stormy, 7 to 1 v. Alina. Won by three lengths, a neck between second and third. Time, 1 minute 0¾ second.

FOURTEEN-TWO HANDICAP of 25 sovs., 4½ furlongs.—W. Foulsham ns gr g Commodore, aged, 8st 3lb (Porter), 1; H. Waters's b m June, aged, 6st 12lb (Freeland), 2; T. Hall ns blk or br g Jerrawang, 6 years, 6st 7lb (M'Dougall), 3. Other starters: Noon, 7st 4lb; X 10 U S, 7st. Betting: 5 to 2 v. Commodore, 7 to 2 v. June, 4 to 1 v. Noon and Jerrawang. Won by half a length, a similar distance between second and third. Time, 59½ seconds.

THIRTEEN-THREE HANDICAP of 20 sovs., 4 furlongs.—M. Dawson's br f Pussy, 2 years, 7st 10lb (F. Fielder), 1; E. Benham's or m Nutmeg, 4 years, 7st 7lb (Robinson), 2; G. Taylor's br m Miss Tobin, 5 years, 9st (Henkel), 3. Other starters: Zillah, 7st 10lb, including 5lb over; Freddie, 6st 12lb; Wyema, 6st 7lb. Betting: 5 to 2 v. Miss Tobin, 3 to 1 v. Pussy, 4 to 1 v. Nutmeg, 5 to 1 v. Wyema, 7 to 1 v. others. Won by a neck, a similar distance separating second and third. Time, 55 seconds.

FOURTEEN-ONE WELTER HANDICAP of 25 sovs., lowest weight 7st 7lb, 4 furlongs.—J. Mackenzie's gr m Virtue, aged, 8st 1lb (F. Walker), 1; J. Lillas's b h Misteran, aged, 8st 10lb (Knight), 2; H. Walker's br or blk g Eucalyptus, aged, 8st 6lb (Egan), 3. Other starters: Churchlight, 9st 3lb; Pearl, 7st 12lb; Sweetheart, 7st 10lb; Lavender, 7st 8lb; Arabia, 7st 8lb; W. O., 7st 7lb. Betting: 2 to 1 v. Churchill, 3 to 1 v. Lavender, 6 to 1 v. Virtue and Pearl. Won by a neck, a length between second and third. Time, 54½ seconds.

KENSINGTON HANDICAP (15.0) of 30 sovs., 1 mile.—M. Dunn ns b m Zulander, aged, 7st 7lb (Johnson), 1; A. Thompson's br g Grand Clogs, 4 years, 8st 13lb (Howard), 2; C. Peters ns b m Ada II., 6 years, 6st 10lb (Henry), 3. Other starter: Dusey, 7st 4lb. Betting: 2 to 1 v. Grand Clogs and Dusey, 4 to 1 v. Ada II. and Zulander. Won by two lengths, a neck between second and third. Time, 1 minute 48 seconds.

ROSEBERY PARK PONY AND GALLOWAY RACES.

Appended are the weights for next Friday's fixture:—

FIFTEEN HANDS HANDICAP, 4 furlongs.—Corrie Roy, 8st 2lb; Loch Ena, 8st 1lb; Sundot, 7st 12lb; Bertha, 7st 12lb; Hazard, 7st 10lb; Broncho, 7st 9lb; Billy Grey, 7st 7lb; Soprano, 7st 7lb; Foodle, 7st 6lb; Russet, 7st 5lb; Hope II., 7st; Orthona, 6st 13lb; Gaylad, 6st 10lb.

THIRTEEN-ONE HANDICAP, about 3 furlongs 50 yards.—Knetty, 10st; Patience, 9st 6lb; Eurobin, 8st 6lb; Activity, 8st 3lb; Minim, 8st 2lb; Master Fred, 7st 12lb; Little Warrior, 7st 11lb; Blue and White, 7st 10lb; Rose Stella, 7st 8lb; Little Splendide, 7st 2lb; Flanagan, 6st 8lb; Eily, 6st 7lb.

FOURTEEN HANDS HANDICAP, about 4 furlongs.—Bluegown, 8st 12lb; Deceiver, 8st 4lb; Miss Tobin, 8st 2lb; Rose I., 8st 1lb; Guy Fawkes, 8st; The Rat, 7st 13lb; Ora, 7st 12lb; Novice, 7st 10lb; Ethel, 7st 8lb; Fairy, 7st 8lb; Curlew, 7st 6lb; Mabel Brook, 7st 6lb; Nutmeg, 7st 2lb; Spec, 6st 11lb; Stump, 6st 7lb; Wyema, 6st 7lb.

FOURTEEN-TWO HANDICAP, about 4½ furlongs.—Rob Roy, 9st 1lb; Civility, 9st; June, 8st 2lb; Black Jack, 7st 13lb; Magdalene, 7st 13lb; B'Golly, 7st 10lb; Sweetheart II., 7st 3lb; Coquette, 7st 2lb; May M'Key, 7st 2lb; Alicia, 7st 1lb; Deceiver II., 6st 8lb; Magic, 6st 7lb.

ROSEBERY HANDICAP (15.0), 6 furlongs 50 yards.—Expect, 9st 5lb; Maud F., 9st 3lb; Spring Gun, 8st 7lb; Days of Yore, 8st 2lb; Glen Vivo, 7st 13lb; Elsie, 7st 12lb; Sundot, 7st 11lb; Whalebone, 7st 10lb; Jacko II., 7st 9lb; Kildare, 7st 8lb; Daisy, 7st 6lb; Swan, 7st; Old Tom, 6st 7lb.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

TOCUMWAL RACE CLUB.

TOCUMWAL, Tuesday.

In connection with the annual meeting of the Tocumwal Race Club to be held on New Year's Day Mr. W. E. Dakin has allotted the following weights for the handicap events:—

DENISON HANDICAP HURDLE RACE.—West Britten, 11st 12lb; Eva, 11st 10lb; Hector, 11st 7lb; Bonnie Doon, 10st 12lb; Daroo, 10st 7lb; Bangle, 10st 5lb; Woperana, 9st 12lb; Wedding March, 9st 7lb; Why Not, 9st 7lb; Tiger, 9st 5lb; Countersign, 9st; Bullatella, 9st; and Rainbow, 9st.

TOCUMWAL HANDICAP.—Waxworks, 8st 10lb; Catspaw, 8st 3lb; Glenmore, 8st 12lb; Golden Shoes, 8st; Lady Bell, 7st 5lb; Lady Rossiore, 7st 7lb; Richway, 6st 12lb; Boulevard, 6st 10lb; Daffodil, 6st 9lb; Bilbah, 6st 7lb; Wedding March, 6st 7lb; and Sheetblock, 6st 7lb.

CLUB WELTER STAKES.—Catspaw, 13st 8lb; Glenmore, 13st 2lb; Golden Shoes, 12st 7lb; Hector, 11st 12lb; Bangle, 11st 2lb; Theorem, 11st; Stone, 10st 12lb; Daffodil, 10st 12lb; and Sheetblock, 10st 12lb; Magic, 10st 11lb; Woperana, 10st 10lb; Butter Cup, 10st 9lb; Bilbah, 10st 9lb; and Perverse, 10st 9lb; Bullatella, 10st 8lb; Countersign, 10st 8lb; and Bright, 10st 8lb; Publican, 10st 7lb; Rainbow, 10st 7lb; Bowman, 10st 7lb; and Smoke, 10st 7lb.

FLYING HANDICAP.—Dally, 9st 10lb; Catspaw, 9st 7lb; Golden Shoes, 8st 5lb; Rising Sun, 8st 1lb; Erin, 7st 10lb; Lady Bell, 7st 7lb; Newsgirl, 7st 7lb; Rhodope, 7st 2lb; Theorem, 7st; Daffodil, 6st 12lb; Boulevard, 6st 12lb; Perverse, 6st 10lb; Noon, 6st 10lb; Lynette, 6st 9lb; Sheetblock, 6st 9lb; Hazel, 6st 9lb; Tiger, 6st 7lb; Cyclopean, 6st 7lb; Smoke, 6st 7lb.

WILCANNIA TURF CLUB.

WILCANNIA, Tuesday.

The following acceptances have been received for the principal events of the local turf club meeting on Boxing Day:—

FLYING HANDICAP.—Recluse, Coorie, Wallace, Sweep, Defiance, Talooia, Sir Joseph.

BOXING DAY HANDICAP.—Recluse, Wallace, Warrego, Sweep, Talooia.

CRICKET.

A metropolitan team will leave by rail this afternoon for Newcastle, where they will play on the 26th instant and following days.

A match was played yesterday on the Capulet wicket, Moore Park, between the North Coast District and a team chosen by the N.S.W. Junior Cricket Association, the Juniors winning by 4 runs. North Coast won the toss, and sent the Juniors in, their score reaching 106 (Perryman 28, Bradley not out 22, Chandler 15, Myers 11, Jackson 10). J. Simes took four wickets for 36 runs, and Redtern four for 21. North Coast made 102 (Nicklin 30, Mackenzie 28, Russell 15). Sparkes took five wickets for 30 runs, Perryman four for 40, and Myers one for 9.

Chidgey Brothers and Drummoyne played a draw on the latter's wicket on Saturday. Scores:—Chidgey Brothers, 184 (Winslow 45, Holt 44, Cruwys 28), Drummoyne, 25 for four wickets.

Stanmore and Burwood Electorate Veterans played at Norwood Park on Saturday, and Stanmore won by four wickets and 163 runs. Scores:—Burwood Veterans, 43 (Barker 24), Stanmore, 205 for six wickets (J. Rowley 69, A. M'Coy 54 not out, A. Windeyer 45).

CYCLING.

The Redfern B.C. held a run on Saturday to Bronte, and it proved to be an enjoyable one. After a dip in the baths there the club rode down to the Hampden track at the Agricultural Ground to do a bit of fast work in anticipation of the racing on Boxing Day and the following Saturday.

PIGEON-HOMING.

The squeaker races in connection with the Balmain and Annandale Homing Pigeon Society were concluded on Saturday, with the following results:—

Mittagong Race.—Mr. Cook's bird Charley, velocity 600 yards per minute, 1; Mr. Hutcheson's Lady Hampden, velocity 585 yards per minute, 2; Mr. Raymond's Will of the Wisp, velocity 584 yards per minute, 3.

Bundanoon Race.—Mr. Raymond's Trenchant, velocity 1033 yards per minute, 1; Mr. Bowrey's Lord Clifton, 1019 yards 2ft. 6in. per minute, 2; Mr. Cook's Sid, 1019 yards 2ft. 4in. per minute, 3.

Marulan Race.—Mr. Cook's Ernie II., velocity 1016 yards per minute, 1; Mr. Raymond's Trenchant, velocity 1013 yards per minute, 2; Mr. Bowrey's Lord Clifton, velocity 1007 yards per minute, 3.

Goulburn Race.—Mr. Cook's Tom, velocity 1163 yards per minute, 1; Mr. Raymond's Robert II., velocity 1160 yards 1ft. 9in. per minute, 2; Mr. Hutcheson's Lady Hampden, 1160 yards 1ft. 6in. per minute, 3. The other competitors were Messrs. Tinsley and Weeks.

BARRISTERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

The Speaker of the House of Commons presided at a general meeting of the Barristers' Benevolent Association, held on the 1st November, in the Middle Temple Hall, and was supported (says the *Daily Chronicle*) by a distinguished company of legal luminaries, including the Lord Chief Justice, Lord James of Hereford, Lord Justice Smith, Mr. Justice Mathew, Mr. Justice Grantham, Mr. Justice Barnes, Sir Richard Webster, Q.C., M.P. (Attorney-General), Sir R. B. Finlay, Q.C., M.P. (Solicitor-General), Sir R. T. Reid, Q.C., M.P., Sir Frank Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., the Hon. G. Denman, Sir H. B. Poland, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Murphy, Q.C., Mr. A. Birrell, Q.C., M.P., Judge Bagshawe (treasurer of the Middle Temple), Mr. M'Call, Q.C., Mr. Bigham, Q.C., and Mr. H. D. Greene, Q.C., M.P. Mr. Gully was moved into the chair by Sir Richard Webster, who remarked that everyone in the profession must feel gratified that so old and distinguished member of the Bar should now fill the highest office open to a commoner. Mr. Edmund Macrory (hon. secretary) presented the report of the committee of management for the 18 months ending with June last, and the accounts for the same period. The donations received during the period had amounted to £1614 6s, and the annual subscriptions to £2045 6s. The association consisted of 777 members. Thanks were especially due for the following donations:—The Attorney-General (Sir R. E. Webster, M.P.), £105; the Solicitor-General (Sir R. B. Finlay, M.P.), second donation, £105; Sir R. T. Reid, Q.C., M.P. (second donation), £105; Sir F. Lockwood, Q.C., M.P., £115 10s; Mr. J. P. Murphy, Q.C. (fifth donation), £105; Mr. J. C. Bigham, Q.C., M.P. (third donation), £105; Sir Harry B. Poland, Q.C., £105; Sir E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., £100; Mr. Graham Hastings, Q.C., £50; Mr. H. H. Cozens-Hardy, Q.C., M.P., £50; Mr. A. R. Jelf, Q.C. (ninth and tenth donations), £31 10s; and also for £307 15s, presented by Mr. Arthur Denman, being the proceeds of a sale of a picture of his father, the Right Hon. George Denman. 155 applications for relief had been considered, 24 of which were refused, a large majority of these not coming within the rules of the association. The amount granted was £3372 8s. The committee had (as on former occasions) to regret the smallness of the number of their members and of the support contributed by the Bar. The scope of the usefulness of the association was thus much circumscribed. In moving the adoption of the reports and accounts, the Speaker (who was warmly cheered) said he was sincerely pleased to find himself once more in the Temple, and returned thanks for the friendly welcome accorded him, which assured him that although banished he was not yet a forgotten member of the Bar. (Cheers.) The Barristers' Benevolent Association was an institution which had taken root in the Bar, and the merits of its objects needed no recommendation. The objects of the association, as defined by the rules, were the assistance of necessitous and deserving members of the English Bar, special pleaders, and conveyancers, and the wives or widows and children. They must all approve the objects of the association, and they all ought to support it. (Cheers.) As regards the distribution of the funds he could confidently assure the meeting that there was no benevolent institution in the kingdom whose affairs were conducted with more efficiency, more judgment, and more economy. (Cheers.) Although the years 1891-5 had not been considered very prosperous for barristers, he was glad to note that both the income and the number of subscribers had steadily increased during that period. At the same time, he regretted that the subscribers did not represent more than one out of every four or five practising members of the bar. The association deserved the support of the Bar, and he was sure that if every member who was interested in it made it his business to interest others a more satisfactory account would be rendered next year, for the association only required to be better known to obtain increased support. (Cheers.) Sir R. T. Reid, in seconding the motion, said that anyone who had seen the work of the association would know what an immense amount of good it did; and he thought that if every member of the Bar would feel it his duty to subscribe something it would be most desirable, not only because the money would do good, but because it would tend to foster the feeling of brotherhood among members of the same profession, which was the chief source of their strength. (Cheers.) The motion having been unanimously adopted, a number of gentlemen were elected to form the committee of management, and the proceedings closed with votes of thanks.

A FRAGMENT OF BURIED LONDON.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY.

The London *Daily Telegraph* records an interesting discovery in Whitefriars-street, upon the site of the Carmelite Monastery, from which the street takes its name, founded about 1241. It says:—Descending from Fleet-street towards the river, about two-thirds of the way down Whitefriars-street, on the western side, is a dingy little alley, known as Briton's-court, a *cul de sac*, towards the end of which, on the south side, is a dwelling that has been for 90 years in the possession of a family named Hurrell. This property, a freehold, was placed in the hands of the Messrs. Lumley, St. James' House, St. James'-street, for sale. In the examination of it a clerk of the firm observed that a cellar at the north-west corner of the house was really a Gothic vault, supported by eight ribs meeting in a rose or boss at the crown of the arch. Mr. Henry Lumley's attention was called to it, and he at once judged that it was a piece of ancient work going back to the thirteenth or fourteenth century. Means were thereupon taken to clear the chamber. It was obviously a crypt beneath some portion of the ancient church or monastery. It is a small apartment, 14ft. or 15ft. square, one corner of it having been destroyed to make room for the brickwork of the outer wall of the dwelling. From the crown of the arch to the rubbish-covered floor was 5ft., but beneath this was first a brick flooring, then another layer of rubbish, then a tiled floor—possibly the original one—and beneath this a bed of mortar resting on clay. A coin or two, some broken pottery and glass, and a few other objects were found on careful examination of the rubbish, but whether these possess antiquarian value cannot yet be said. Special interest, however, attaches to what is apparently the opening into a small subterranean passage leading westward from the vault. The passage has yet to be opened up, and it may be found to lead to more relics of the old monastery. On the invitation of Mr. Lumley, the place was visited on 5th November by Sir Walter Besant, Mr. St. John Hope, M.A., of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and other gentlemen, all of whom were deeply interested in the find. Mr. Hope thinks its date is about 1380, and that it was probably part of the destroyed house of the Carmelite Friars.

The Court of Appeal in Paris, on 3rd November, confirmed the sentence of five years' imprisonment passed in default on Dr. Cornelius Herz.

ANTI-FERMENTINE Preserves Fruit without cooking. Your Storekeeper will tell you all about it.—[ADVT.]

JUDGE BACKHOUSE AND MR. HEYDON.

The following correspondence bears upon the subject of Mr. Crick's letter to the *Herald* on Tuesday:—

"Judges' Chambers, District Court, Sydney, 24th December, 1895.

"Dear Mr. Gould,—Nothing is so misleading as a statement in which there is a scintilla of truth, while the whole intention meant to be conveyed is absolutely untrue. I therefore wish to place before you what did take place between Mr. Heydon and myself with reference to the Rofe case.

"The first charge against Mr. Heydon, and inferentially against me—for I decline to be whitewashed at the expense of Mr. Heydon or anyone else—was that he had privately approached me with a view to influencing me in the sentence to be passed on Rofe. The form of the questions asked by Mr. Perry, and the reference to the sentence in Mr. Crick's speech of last Thursday, show this. This charge was denied. The charge now made is that Mr. Heydon 'succeeded in getting the Judge to take a different view of the case.' What happened was thus: After the conviction of Rofe I heard that Mr. Heydon still believed him innocent. Thinking that Mr. Heydon would not take such a view without some very good grounds, and feeling that some things pointed to Rofe's not fully understanding what he was doing up to the time of his arrest, I asked Mr. Heydon when I saw him on other business if what I had heard was true. He acquiesced, and I then shortly put to him what I considered the strong points against Rofe, and said, 'If you can throw any new light (of course I meant in court) on these matters I will recommend an inquiry under the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883.' The whole interview did not last many minutes, and I did the talking, not Mr. Heydon. But, as I wish to be strictly accurate, it was partly a few minutes before the afternoon sitting on Friday, before sentence was passed on Rofe, and for a few minutes after I went into my chambers, when the jury had retired in the second Dean case. After those few minutes, till the jury agreed, we were talking about general matters, and a third person was present most of the time. Later on Mr. Heydon sent my associate to me to ask me to allow certain exhibits in the case to leave the court till Monday. Mr. Heydon took these, and on them and other matters addressed me on Monday.

"I am, Dear Mr. Gould,
"Yours sincerely,
"ALF. P. BACKHOUSE.

"The Hon. A. J. Gould, Minister of Justice."

"Judges' Chambers, District Court, Sydney, 25th November, 1895.

"Dear Mr. Gould,—Although the grossest misrepresentations with regard to the Rofe case, and the wildest charges of improper conduct on my part have been made, conscious of no evil doing, and believing that what I did was absolutely right, I should not have referred to the matter again were it not that I am afraid that opinions formed in an unreasoning excitement may lead to an alteration of one of the most useful of our penal statutes, and I therefore wish to place on record my view of the share Rofe took in the Butler conspiracy case:—The measure of his complicity in the crime is far less than that of Butler, Davis, or Peake. He had nothing to do with the bringing about the circumstances pointing to adultery on Mrs. Butler's part, and I am absolutely certain that he knew nothing of a plot till January this year, months after the decree nisi had been obtained by Butler, and that he is as innocent as I am of the main wrong done Mrs. Butler. No doubt Rofe, as soon as he got the knowledge, should have communicated with the Judge in Divorce, but his not doing so was no crime, although it was misconduct on his part as a solicitor for which he could have been dealt with. If in May Rofe had not helped Butler with the affidavit necessary to obtain the decree absolute—not applied for by Rofe and, in fact, never obtained—I question whether there would have been a case against him. This affidavit as drafted was no doubt untrue, and as sworn to by Butler, although verbally correct, was misleading. Rofe very soon repented of his acts, for a few days after the affidavit was drawn he saw the Judge and explained exactly how matters stood. True, the Crown urged that his action was brought about by the arrest of Davis and Peake, and I agree that it was, but I also think that it was after the arrest that Rofe for the first time appreciated what he had done. That he kept the draft affidavit, which without exciting any suspicion he might have destroyed, and that he produced it voluntarily at Butler's trial, gives food for thought whether he before arrest realised his position at all. This short statement of the case can be fully borne out by the evidence, and I will gladly if you wish it go into the matter in detail and prove beyond doubt that my view is correct. These being the facts, to speak of Rofe's guilt as equal to that of the others convicted shows an ignorance of the case. But, further, my duty to the public, my duty to Rofe, was to impose such punishment as I thought his particular case deserved, irrespective of other cases, the evidence in which was not completely before me—more especially the evidence of character. Taking the view I did I thought the case came pre-eminently within the provisions of the First Offenders Act, and I treated it accordingly. By the way, it may be remarked that the language of that Act is perfectly clear, and that there is nothing in it to limit the application to young or any particular class of first offenders. Further, although the expressed intention could not be modified by opinions expressed during debate, such opinions may be considered in finding out what was the actual intention of the Legislature. A reference will show that the actual intention was the expressed intention.

"I am, Dear Mr. Gould, yours sincerely,
"ALF. P. BACKHOUSE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—The fairy tale about my having improperly influenced Mr. Justice Backhouse to deal leniently with Mr. Rofe comes down now, it appears, to a new edition of the "Three black crows," to something which Mr. Crick says that Mr. Barton said that Mr. Heydon said. I cannot remember speaking to Mr. Barton at all about the sentence, but it is quite possible that I may have done so, as we were counsel together in the case. Romancing is not a habit of mine, and unless I was romancing or dreaming I cannot have said to Mr. Barton what is now attributed to me, for it would have been utterly untrue. Whatever it was that I said Mr. Barton evidently saw no harm in it. I cannot, however, be responsible for the form which any chance observation of mine may assume after this double and triple hearsay. Probably what I did say was some sanguine anticipation as to the view which the Judge would ultimately take, for I believed that there was only one document in the case which weighed strongly in the Judge's mind against Mr. Rofe, and I procured that document from the Associate in order to examine it carefully, and was confident that we should be able to explain it satisfactorily.

The "inspired" paragraph in your Monday's issue did not emanate from me, nor did I know anything about it. I can, however, say that it is perfectly true.

The trial of Mr. Rofe began on Monday morning, the 21st October. On that morning I had told the Attorney-General that I would, under the special circumstances, take up the prosecution of the Dean conspiracy cases, which I had before refused; but of which he had, on the previous Friday, again urged me, on public grounds, to relieve him. As soon as Mr. Crick appeared in court to assist in the Rofe defence, I took him aside and told him this, so as to put him upon his guard when speaking in my presence. The Rofe defence and the prosecution of George Dean for perjury kept me at Darlinghurst all that week. I was several times, with others, as is not at all uncommon with counsel, in the Judges' room. At these meetings general conversation took place. I remember saying to someone—I do not remember to whom nor when, and I think not in the Judges' room—that I was convinced that Mr. Rofe was innocent. In this opinion I believe that I am in agreement with Mr. Crick. Nothing whatever passed between me and Mr. Justice Backhouse that might not be repeated to the whole world. But without taxing my memory as to matters which I did not think it important to remember, I will merely say emphatically that I never in any way, directly or indirectly, by any improper means, nor in any private conversation, attempted to influence Mr. Justice Backhouse in regard to Mr. Rofe. I am, &c.,

CHAS. G. HEYDON.

P.S.—Permit me to add a word to correct what seems to be a false impression in another matter. I in no way whatever was consulted, nor gave any opinion, as to the finding of a true bill in the Dean conspiracy case.

Chambers, December 24.

THE HYPNOTISM OF "TRILBY."

As regards the mesmeric powers possessed by Svengali, and the apparently improbable incident of a tone-deaf girl, like the lovable Trilby, being able to pour forth such brilliant vocal music while under hypnotic influence, the experience of a well-known investigator in the phenomena of mesmerism is worth recalling (says the *Westminster Gazette*). Mr. James Baird, a surgeon residing at Manchester, entered upon the study of the pretensions of animal magnetism, in his own words, as "a complete sceptic." Anton Mesmer had performed his experiments with cabalistic surroundings. Mirrors hung on the walls, and odours wafted through the room, and he himself, dressed as a magician, glided amongst his audience, affecting one by a touch, another by a look, and making "passes" to a third. But after a long course of investigation Mr. Baird came to the conclusion that "the peculiar condition of the mind and body might be self-induced by the patient maintaining a steady, fixed gaze at any inanimate object. During the process he abstained from touching any part of the patient's person. He delivered many public lectures, and read a paper on the subject at a meeting of the British Association at Manchester in 1842. Before large crowds of the general public, and many scientists of repute, Mr. Baird produced extraordinary instances of the phenomena. He induced, while in a hypnotic condition, deaf mutes both to speak and sing. At the Zoological Gardens, Manchester, he hypnotised a lion in the presence of a number of *savants*. In his work "Observations on Trance," he records a case of a tone-deaf young girl being operated upon, who sang in unison with Jenny Lind, following the "Swedish Nightingale's" extraordinary vocal flights in perfect tune and *aplomb* and unheard-of sweetness. As Mr. du Maurier has not contradicted the statement, his silence may be taken as admitting that this was the source of the Svengali mesmerism.

How to Preserve Fruits Without Cooking with Anti-Fermentine. Ladies inquire of all Storekeepers.—[ADVT.]

THE NEW DRAMA.

(*The World.*)

The theatrical season has opened prosperously. Success has followed on success, and unless some public calamity intervenes—war, pestilence, or commercial crisis—the leading playhouses will probably be crowded during the coming winter, and the stage will take a chief place among the obligatory topics of polite conversation. But it will hold that place, in some degree, on sufferance. People are not yet quite at their ease about the theatre. They are inclined to treat it either as a poor relation among the arts (one who has "seen better days"), or else as a flaunting parvenu. They are apt to apologise for their interest in it, ranking it, as a recreation, somewhat lower than cycling and a little above the great wheel or the switchback railway. This habit of thought is largely, though not entirely, a survival from bygone days. We are instinctively aware of the difficulty of attaining a true perspective in matters of art, and especially in matters theatrical; wherefore we are chary of putting too much faith in loud, and sometimes obviously exaggerated, jubilations over the "dramatic revival." There have been so many "dramatic revivals" that have fizzed, spluttered, and gone out like Roman candles, leaving only unsightly and unsavoury exuviae behind them. "Virginius" in the eighteen-twenties, heralded a dramatic revival; so did "The Lady of Lyons" in the late 'thirties; and behold! they both stink in the nostrils of to-day. More real, perhaps, was the revival marked by "Society" and "Caste;" yet, it too, died away, and we had to fall back upon imported "Diplomacies" and "Pink Dominoes." Such experiences render us wary of hallooing before we are out of the wood, and incline us, even when a play deeply moves and interests us, to hedge our expressions of interest with a smile and a shrug. Moreover, the theatre, alone among the arts, tends to be estimated by a sort of average between its highest and its lowest productions. Despite the multiplication of playhouses, the whole field of the drama is really so narrow that the eye cannot help taking it in at a glance, and carrying away a blurred impression, like a composite photograph, in which the trivial and the vulgar overlay and even distort, what is intelligent and refined. In contemporary fiction and poetry we read those authors who appeal to us, ignoring and practically forgetting those who do not. A man of reasonable taste can to some extent anticipate the action of time, can dwell permanently at a certain intellectual level, even among modern writers, and need not concern himself with what is merely vulgar, pretentious and ephemeral. But such eclecticism is scarcely possible in the theatre. Practically, you must take it all in all or not at all. You cannot—you do not want to—pick out only what will satisfy your critical ideal. The act of theatre-going is to most people a recreation in itself, apart from the quality of the play presented. No one will of his own motion struggle through a novel which he despises, whereas thousands of people go to plays which, as plays, they despise, because the extrinsic attractions of the entertainment prevent them from feeling bored. Thus it is impossible to eliminate what is base and trivial from our general impressions of the theatre. "The modern drama," without qualifications, denotes not only "The Benefit of the Doubt," "The Case of Rebellious Susan," "Liberty Hall," and "Sowing the Wind," but "Charlie's Aunt," "The Shop Girl," "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," and "Gentleman Joe." Hence the note of apology in our treatment of it.

But those who feel a sincere interest in the drama may, we believe, take heart of grace and confess it unabashed. The condition of the theatre is distinctly healthier than at any time since the decline of the Patent Houses. In all departments save one the general tendency is upwards. The one exception is the so-called "legitimate." Sir Henry Irving has done splendid service to the drama and amply earned his reward; but he has not made Shakespeare live as he ought to live on the stage of his native country. Four or five gorgeous revivals in a decade are not enough to keep the art of Shakespearian acting alive. In addition to the Lyceum, we want a theatre like Sadler's Wells in the Phelps period—more modern in its methods, indeed, but conducted in a like artistic spirit. The "legitimate" apart, there is progress on every hand. Even spectacular melodrama seems (or is this an illusion?) a shade less imbecile than it used to be. In the department of farce we have at least shaken off the yoke of France. A successful adaptation is now exceedingly rare. The most popular farces of the past three or four years have all been of home manufacture, and though none of them (since Mr. Pinero turned serious) has been of the highest quality, we have quite a little group of writers who are developing a pretty knack of seizing upon the humorous aspects of life. Upon the "musical comedy" of the "In Town," "Go-Bang," "Shop Girl," and "Artist's Model" type, which is swamping our lighter theatres, it is impossible to look with much complacency; but it may at least be said that there are excellent possibilities in the form, and that even the tawdry and vulgar medleys we now see are greatly preferable to the rancid burlesques which they have supplanted. Who would willingly go back to the time when a popular manager used to advertise himself as a "dealer in legs," when pink-limbed priestesses of the "sacred lamp" used to gabble screeds of halting doggerel, crammed with puns which they did not understand, and when not even the most beautiful and sacred theme in mythology, history, or poetry was safe from the debasing clutch of the graceless and illiterate parodist? The "musical comedy" of to-day has, at least, the negative merit of not being a hideous leprosy on the fair face of literature.

It is, however, in the sphere of social comedy or drama that we are asked to recognise what Mr. Henry Arthur—must we stop there?—calls a "renascence." And it is here, beyond a doubt, that the advance is most palpable. We are more inclined to quarrel with the "re" of Mr. Arthur's term than with the "nascence"; for the present movement appears to us to differ from the abovementioned pseudo-revivals in that it gives us a form of drama which we have never had before. Robertsonian comedy was only the old comedy of manners in a new guise—the comedy of no-manners it was wittily called. It offered no criticism of life or of social institutions, beyond an assertion of the excellent but somewhat superficial maxim that fond hearts are more than coronets and simple faith than Norman blood. In the later works of Mr. Pinero, on the other hand, we have a drama of ideas, in those of Mr. Henry Arthur—shall we say a melodrama of ideas? A stringent criticism of all social institutions is the chief feature in the intellectual life of the time; and in this criticism the stage has begun to take an active and not incompetent part. All the tedious talk we have heard about "problem plays" and "sex plays" means nothing more than that the drama is at last beginning to seize upon and interpret the genuinely dramatic aspect of modern life. It is significant that while the Robertsonian comedy was faithful to the age-old formula, and always ended with the marriage of one or two pairs of lovers, the new drama is much more apt to take marriage (if not the Divorce Court) for its starting-point. While the love idyll was the indispensable nucleus of every play, monotony followed close on the heels of each new departure, and anything like a searching psychology was impossible. The dramatist's province has now been extended so as to include every form and phase of the relationship between man and woman; or, in other words, the stage has at last fentered into a really intimate and vital relationship to life. That is why—if the movement be left unhampered from without—we look confidently for a steady development of drama, keeping pace with the development of social life and thought. The movement, it is true, is only beginning; and yet, in such a play as "The Benefit of the Doubt," how incalculable the advance beyond anything we could have dreamed of three years ago! It is far from a faultless, and scarcely an inspiriting, piece of work. In the countless discussions to which it gives rise it does not come scatheless from the ordeal. But it is to be noted that all who speak of it, whether in attack or defence, treat its leading characters, at least, as real people, having a sort of substantive and independent existence, such as we instinctively attribute to the creations of the great novelists. How long is it since we could say as much of any group of personages in English drama?

PAYMENT BY RESULTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Onlookers who are interested in the labour problems of the age may well question the soundness of the remark of one member of Parliament during the recent debate on the sweating evil in the clothing trade, *viz.*, that "if sub-letting were abolished a great step would be taken in the direction of lessening the evil." In that contention he might possibly be correct in so far as sweating is an evil; but his idea, if carried out, would only set up in its place a (if possible) greater evil in the shape of advancing more rapidly than would otherwise be the case the crushing principle of the survival of the fittest. Assuming, of course, that sub-letting is in a degree a form of piecework. Not for a moment would the good intentions of the member be doubted; but it may be questioned whether his grasp of so great a question as solving the labour problem is sufficient to suggest a remedy calculated to secure to the greater number concerned the maximum of good with the minimum of evil to the remainder, as the result following any change in the order or method of remunerating labour. If it be desirable to know what would be the best system on which to fix the remuneration of labour to the end of its furthest reach, having regard to our up-to-date knowledge and experience, the answer might be that a well-regulated system of payment by results would be the best, subject, of course, to the rise and fall in prices demanded by the periodic fluctuations in the market value of commodities, which fluctuations no one seems able to control or prevent at present, and doubtless will be unlikely to do so in the future. Further, it may be said that a fixed wage system, whether it be on the principle of a maximum or a minimum, is by no means comparable to this in regard to the distribution of labour among the greater number, or, to be more strictly correct, among a greater variety of degrees of capability. It should be remembered by those in high public positions, who are able to add weight to their opinions by the aid of State machinery, that where the methods of organised government are brought to bear on the industries of a nation, regard should be had to the many varieties of the species man; otherwise, with the best intentions, a little good may be followed by a greater evil. All intelligent readers will recognise that in the arts and sciences, professions, trades, and in all industrial occupations, there is a long distance between the highest and the least degree of skill, and while it may be in the highest sense commendable to develop efficiency, and to specially reward and advance the more efficient, the greatest duty of legislators is to exercise care that in such efforts the least skilled shall be neither penalised nor pauperised; and nothing is so calculated to bring this about as a cast-iron law of wages. Strange as it may seem to the uninitiated, very seldom has the rate of wages been advanced or privileges extended that have not been done at the expense of human factors lesser than themselves—rarely at the expense of those greater—and this accounts for the continual increase in the number of unemployed—a remarkable truth when taken in connection with the great advances made during the last 25 years in the condition of the worker both educationally and politically. Many hold that this ever-widening gulf is due to the large use of machinery. Here they are in error, or right only to a limited extent, inasmuch as labour revolts have always wonderfully accelerated the inventive faculty, just as modern warfare has naturally and of necessity developed life-destroying engines of war. The balance must be maintained at any cost. In the case of labour, the loss of necessary profit by reason of advancing wages is compensated by the use of labour-saving machines, and again followed by reducing human labour, selecting and retaining only the highest skilled—the balance to the gaol, the workhouse, and the gutter. If these truths were better understood in the relation of cause and effect, there would be less tinkering, which more often than not only intensifies the evil; and if it happens that the true solution of the problem of human life is the survival of the fittest, there would be some comfort in the knowledge that the less suddenly it comes about the less of human suffering will follow in its trail. Most people will agree that the inequalities in point of skill, output, and knowledge are not entirely under the control of the individual, but may be due to weak mental capacity or mind indolence, to a lack of robustness of constitution or physique, or perhaps to the burden of years; but given a willingness on the part of the workers, to most of them there is a value attachable to their services, provided no unnatural obstacle is placed in their way, and what greater obstacle can the mind of man invent than by fixing an arbitrary wages rate, that only the most robust and highest skilled can earn, having regard to present values? What has become of the elderly mechanic, labourer, and other workers, men of 50 and 60 years of age? If visits are made to large works and buildings in progress, few workmen will be encountered who are past midde age, while, a few decades back, men of that age and older could be met with in plenty working at their trade. The answer is: they have been driven from their chance of employment before their time by the unwise action of their representatives in and out of Parliament, and with the assistance of weak Governments. All this points conclusively to the fact that for the present and until we have more light on the labour question the surest way to ensure a fair distribution of the work available to the greatest number on conditions hurtful to none would be payment by results. Australians probably are unaware that the system in vogue in America is a form of task work—a pernicious system, making men real slaves. At first sight it appears a fair day or weekly wage, but in practice it means an output of production in quantity possible only to the most capable. The consequences to the army of less capable is obvious. The system has been introduced in all callings where it is possible to classify the work. The American mechanic when at work is stripped of all clothing save only drawers and singlet, and he works at such a speed that his movements can only be likened to the exertions put forth at the finish of a wheel race or sculling match. In no other country in the world are men kept up to such "concert pitch," whereby only those in the first prime of their muscular energy are equal to the strain. Surely payment by results in an honest fashion would be the better plan. In this connection it is understood to be in contemplation by the proprietors of a large boot factory at the beginning of the year to abandon the "statement price" system, and to adopt the American task work plan. It is to be hoped that the rumour is unfounded, seeing that the object is to produce the same output at a lesser cost, or, as an operative put it, "We shall have to work five days for ourselves and one for the firm." One thing is certain, it practically means reducing hands. In whichever way the labour problem is looked on, it presents many and varied difficulties, and is certainly not solvable by any petty or repressive legislative contrivance. If means are discovered it can only be by the exercise of the highest altruism coupled with a large intelligence and matured wisdom. I am, &c.,

December 23. W. MAINER.

THE LICENSED VICTUALLERS AND WOMANHOOD SUFFRAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Absence from Sydney prevented my commenting at an earlier date upon the above subject, but the matter is of such general and widespread interest, and the action of the publicans at Newcastle the other day was of so curious a character that I trust you will give me space for a word or two. The organised liquor-sellers, it seems, have come to the conclusion that an extension of the suffrage to women would mean ruin to their business, and naturally they are going to move everything upon earth, and everything under the earth, to prevent such an awful calamity. But I should like to know what the publicans could have been thinking about in putting upon record such an admission. Undoubtedly it was a high compliment to the intelligence and good sense of the women of the colony; but a moment's reflection should have shown them that it displayed bad generalship, and that it amounted to an entire giving away of one of their most cherished contentions.

It has always been the proud boast of the liquor-sellers that they not only lived to supply an admitted public want, but that an overwhelming majority of the people were their customers and friends. If they believe their own statements in regard to this matter why are they so terrified at the idea of giving the franchise to women? Surely the publicans are not afraid to trust their own customers, and if it is true as they claim that a big majority of the people are favourable to the existence of the liquor traffic there is no need for such a state of alarm at the very reasonable proposal to give the whole people a voice and vote on the subject.

Personally I am very pleased that the women are likely in the near future to be placed on an equality with the men at the ballot-box. I believe with Mr. Bevill that the women's vote will be an important factor in determining the fate of the liquor traffic, and as I know that the death of that traffic will add enormously to the material and moral life of the community, I cannot but rejoice at the prospect. I confess that this work ought to have been accomplished without the aid of the women. Men could and should have strangled the liquor fiend long ago; but seeing that so many of them, both in Church and State, are interested in the business, and that others have not the courage to boldly grapple with the evil, it is quite providential that the women are coming to the front, and that they are prepared to take the matter into their own hands.

Clearly also the aim of temperance workers just now should be to push on the suffrage movement, and even the men who are too timid to demand the prohibition of the liquor traffic may help the movement by assisting the cause of womanhood suffrage. I am in favour of the principle of equal rights at the ballot-box merely as an act of justice, and entirely independent of the effect it may have upon legislation; but seeing that the drink-sellers, though quite ready to make use of young and pretty women to draw soft-hearted fools into their own dens, are against an extension of the franchise, I am all the more ready to vote for it. I am, &c.,

December 23. G. D. CLARK, G.C.T.

A SUBMARINE BOAT.

The boat, which has just been built for a foreign Government, will be removed in a day or two from the yard in which it has been constructed, near the cemetery of Père Lachaise, to the Seine for trial (writes the Paris correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph* on 2nd November). The inventor is M. Goubet, who has for some time devoted particular attention to the problem of submarine navigation. In this, his latest work, he has, as he maintains, successfully coped with all the difficulties that have hitherto baffled experts in the same direction. Le Goubet, for this is the name which he has given to his last production, is cigar-shaped, is eight mètres in length by 1¾ mètre in breadth at the widest part, and weighs about 10 tons. It is made of bronze 25 millimètres in thickness in the centre, diminishing to eight millimètres as the extremities are approached. It is divided into three portions, and everything is so arranged that heavy articles can be kept in their places, so that no risk is run of any disturbing of the balance so essential to the stability of the craft. For it is hardly necessary to explain that stability is a matter of primary importance. Particular attention has been bestowed on this desideratum, and by means of metallic appliances, working automatically, the Goubet is expected by its inventor to remain entirely free from any oscillation, always keeping parallel to the surface, with, at the outside, a trifling deviation of five to six centimètres. It is, in fact, the immobility claimed for the boat by M. Goubet which constitutes one of its most important features. The submarine craft hitherto built can only be sent down or brought up while in motion, but this, as its inventor maintains, can be thus manoeuvred in one spot by a skilful working of the pumps, arranging the water ballast so as to meet the necessary requirements. A weight of 1200 kilogrammes is also attached to the keel in such a manner that it can be got rid of at any moment, so that, in the event of a sudden rise to the surface being rendered imperative by any derangement of the mechanism, the boat would respond to the call with the lightness of the proverbial cork.

But how, it will be asked, will the crew of the Goubet, numbering three persons, be able to remain for hours below the surface without falling victims to suffocation? Here, again, by means of ingenious contrivances this difficult problem is believed to have been solved. Compressed gas, contained in strong steel tubes, and distributed by normal pressure, is supplemented by caustic potassium and by chlorate of chalk for the removal of vitiated air. Thus, it is calculated that the crew of the Goubet can stay under water for 12 or 15 hours without danger or inconvenience. The Goubet is propelled by its one-horsepower electric motor at the speed of nine knots. For such a boat as that already mentioned as capable of accommodating 100 passengers only 25-horsepower would, it is said, be required. The Goubet, which can also be propelled by oars when on the surface of the water and when submerged, has been constructed for naval purposes, and is provided with material for the letting off of torpedoes by means of compressed air through the simple pulling of a trigger. From the above details it will be seen that if this craft realises the sanguine anticipations of its inventor, boats of the same model will have to be taken into account by naval experts. The first experiments, which are to be made in the Seine, can, however, scarcely be regarded as conclusive, for only a severe trial in the sea could demonstrate the practical value of the invention.

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MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

TUESDAY EVENING.

It may be almost said that the Christmas holidays began to-day in the Stock and Share market, for only one transaction in investment stocks was reported on the Sydney Stock Exchange. The day's business concludes that of the year, as there are no further meetings of the members of the Exchange until the 6th January. All the Government securities are at the highest points of the year, the market closing firm. The supply of debentures and stock is altogether inadequate to the requirements of the market, and it is this, of course, which has given the added value. Bank shares, which have been steady for some time, closed strongly, Australian Joint Stock having to-day risen slightly. All the deposit and debenture stocks of the English, Scottish, and Australian Bank advanced, the inscribed deposit stock 6d, and the other descriptions 3d. Deposits of the National Bank of Australia rose 3d. Steam shares remained steady, and insurance also were unaltered, except new shares of the United Company, for which 6d more was offered. In gaslight, business was done in Australian at 15, yesterday's quotation, and the highest of the year; the market ending with buyer at the same figure. Brewery shares were steady, there being some inquiry for Australian. Among miscellaneous shares, Colonial Sugar are held for the highest price asked for months past. Sydney Hydraulic are scarcely so firm. Perpetual Trustee have ended the year with a jump of fully 6d, there being buyer at 8s 3d. The year ends with the Sydney Stock Exchange quotations as follow:—

Company.	Capital paid up.	Amount of Shares.	Shares paid up.	Last div. per annum.	Last Sale.	Buyer.	Seller.
FUNDED STOCK.	£	£	£	p.c.			
N.S.W. Act 1895	2,388,010	...	...	4	110¼	111	...
Ditto Act 1873	530,180	...	...	4	112	112	...
Ditto Debent're 1902	390,300	...	...	5	110	111	...
Queens'nd Deb., 4 p.c., 1913	...				...	...	...
N.Z. Deb., 1915	...			4	105	...	...
Colonial Sugar Deb., 1900	...			5	102½	...	...
Due 1898	442,100				102½	...	...
Due 1897					102	...	...
Due 1901					104½	...	...
Due 1914				5	102½	102	...
Mort's Dock, due 1895	...				...	...	...
BANKS.							
Australian J. S.	1,158,700	10	7½	4	35/6	35/	37/
City	240,000	10	8	5	83/	82/6	...
New Issue	100,000	10	8	...	80/	...	...
Com. of Syd., A	984,012	12½	12½	8	19½	19½	19½
Ditto, B		12½	10		16½	16½	...
Natn. of Aust.	1,515,041	10	6¼	...	12/9	...	...
Do., Preference	305,780	10	10	5	...	...	...
N.S. Wales	1,916,040	20	20	9	29½	29½	29½
Ditto, New	...	...	...	...	29	29	29¼
Ditto, Rights	...	...	...	...	*42/6	...	...
Q'land National	793,021	8	5¼	3	...	...	...
Royal of Q'land	336,498	9	4¼	...	...	...	...
Union	1,500,000	75	25	5	26¼	25¼	27¼
Com. of Aust.	1,731,200	10	6¼	...	...	...	...
Ditto, Prefer.	2,112,000	10	10	...	50/	...	...
DEPOSITS.							
A.J.S. Bank, Negotiable	6,848,106	...	...	...	16 5	16 1	16 4½
Ditto, due 1897	273,387	...	...	...	18 6	...	...
Inscribed	393,110	...	...	...	13/6	12/6	...
Q'land National	...	...	...	...	15/	15/	...
E., S., and A.	...	...	...	...	13/3	13 3	...
Ditto, Inscribed	2,023,963	...	...	...	10/3	10/6	...
Ditto, Debent's	1,017,248	...	...	...	14 9	14/9	15/
Ditto, Term'ble	891,454	...	...	...	18/3	17/	...
Com. of A., 1898	5,900,270	...	...	...	17/	...	...
Nat. of Aust.	5,088,466	...	...	...	16/11	18/9	...
STEAM.							
Newc. and H. R.	100,000	1	1	5	12/6	11/4½	12/
North Coast	121,743	1	17/6	6	13/6	11/	13/
Illawarra	58,006	5	8¼	8¼	85/	80/	...
N. S. Ferry	60,000	1	1	10	39/	38/	39/6
Port Jackson	48,800	88/	48/	...	1/6	...	...
INSURANCE.							
A. M. Fire	25,000	1	5/	23¼	15/9	15/9	16/6
City M. Fire	15,000	1	2/	10	2 3	2/1	2/3
Merc. Mutual	18,750	1	2/6	23¼	6 9	6/6	7/
N. Zealand	200,000	10	2	15	73/	...	...
United	62,500	10	2½	12½	73/	71/	73/
Ditto, New	5,725	10	12/6	12½	17/	16/6	17/6
GAS.							
Australian	681,798	6	6	9/	15	15	15½
City of Goulburn	10,000	1	1	15	40/	39/	41/
North Shore	92,527	1	1	6	23/	22/6	24/
Manly	15,000	1	1	7	20/	...	...
Grafton	8,000	1	1	8	20/6	20/6	22/9
Newcastle Gas	25,127	2	2	12½	...	78/6	81/6
Mudgee	8,000	1	1	7	17/3	...	...
BREWERIES.							
Australian	96,000	1	1	5	12/	10/	12/
Castlemaine and Wood Bros.	250,000	1	...	7	17/6	17/3	17/9
Marshall's	89,100	1	15/	...	2/	2/	2/3
Perkins's	56,333	15	15/	10/	15/6	...	...
Tooth's	800,000	1	1	7	19/6	19/6	20/
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Aarons's	17,500	15/	10/	5	4/3	...	6/
Col. Sugar	1,698,260	20	20	10	24½	24½	24½
Ditto, £10 paid	1,870	20	10	...	15½	...	...
Dalgety and Co.	1,000,000	20	5	8	5	...	5
Emu Gravel	34,000	1	1	7½	...	...	10/
Eagle Tobacco	71,500	13/	13/	...	4/2	4/	4/3
Hudson Bros.	150,000	10/	10/	...	...	1d	3d
Ditto, new	...						
Richardson and Wrench	60,000	1	1	5	7/3	7/	7/6
Shale and Oil	66,230	1	13/3	6d	4	4/	4/3
Syd. Exchange	20,000	10	10	8	16	15¾	...
Syd. Hydraulic	75,000	1	10/	6	16/4	15/9	16/3
Melb. Tram.	480,000	1	10/	5	16/3	...	...
Syd. Tram.	60,750	1	15/	5	...	...	...
Silv. Tramway	197,806	1	1	50	113/9	...	...
B.H.W. S'y.	186,500	1	1	7½	13/3	13/	14/
INVESTMENT AND FINANCE.							
Mont de Piété	72,290	1	1	10	27/6	27/6	28/
Perm. Trustee	25,000	5	2/6	4	1/11	1/11	2/1
Perpet. Trustee	25,000	10	5/	6	7/9	8/3	...
LAND & B'LD'G.							
Industrial Prov.	113,525	20	20	6	14½	14½	...
Syd. & Sub. Dep.	98,137	...	...	...	12/	11/9	12/6
Syd. Freehold	18,750	1	7/6	11	8/	7/6	...
Aust. M. I. and Build. Dep.	...						
Haymarket Dep.	...				...	11/3	...

* Due 1st November, 1895.

The Banks' Exchange settlement for the week ended 23rd December amounted to £2,516,385 12s 10d, as compared with £2,684,560 12s 1d, being a decrease of £168,174 19s 3d, which is no doubt explained by the almost total cessation of business in the Import markets owing to the abandonment of the duties in January. Since the beginning of the year the exchanges have been as follows, in comparison with the amount for the corresponding period of 1894:—

—	1894.	1895.
January 1 to December 16	£102,715,622	£104,078,092
December 17 to December 23	2,684,560	2,516,385
Total	£105,400,182	£106,594,477

There is an increase for the year of £1,194,295.

The Wilcannia Municipal Council is advertising for a loan of £1000; the interest not to exceed 5 per cent. per annum.

The trade of the port continues on a large scale, the imports for the week ended 21st December having been £288,797, and the exports £427,254. The total imports to the 21st December amounted to £13,661,549, inclusive of £1,916,995 uncoined gold, and the exports to £13,946,570, including £2,906,167 gold, £6,518,139 wool, £996,694 tallow, £664,312 skins and hides, £404,776 meats, and £258,817 leather.

The financial news from New York is more reassuring. Securities are advancing, and bankers are making provision for emergencies. The issue of bonds, interest and principal payable in gold, seems almost a necessity of the monetary situation, even if the President's first message were withdrawn, or the difficulties with Great Britain otherwise settled. For it would be remembered that in his opening message to Congress at the beginning of the month the President proposed to issue bonds for the retirement of the greenbacks; and the political "scare" has so aggravated the monetary situation that, even if it ends in nothing else, a loan will be required more than ever; but in the event of further political trouble the proceeds of the bonds might be required for other purposes than to retire greenbacks. Nothing was said in the first instance about the redemption of the bonds in gold; but in a juncture such as the present it can be well imagined that to give confidence to subscribers the bonds would require to be redeemable in gold. Even with such a condition in a time of political disturbance the negotiation of a loan of £100,000,000 would probably be a costly affair for the United States Government, and would furnish additional evidence to support the indictment which large sections of the people of the United States—in the universities, in the press, and in the pulpit—are framing against the President. It is not stated definitely that the issue of the bonds has been determined on. The necessity for relief and the knowledge that President Cleveland favours the maintenance of the gold standard may have started the rumour. And it may be that something of this kind was conveyed in the last message to Congress, recommending that measures should be promptly taken to relieve the danger of the depletion of the gold reserves. That message, as we have been informed, was badly received. It appears from a later cablegram that the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means thinks another issue of bonds to the amount of 50,000,000dol. would be sufficient to meet wants. With £7,000,000 to be withdrawn from a reserve already £3,000,000 below the legal limit, such a sum would not allow much margin for further withdrawals. Obviously this view has no regard to the proposal for the issue of bonds for the retirement of the greenbacks. Certainly if £10,000,000 is to be adequate to the maintenance of the Treasury reserve, additional revenue must be provided, for it is the insufficiency of this that very largely contributes to its exhaustion. It is satisfactory to note that the two Houses agree as to the necessity for further revenue. But when the necessary taxation comes to be proposed the country will probably be even less disposed to support the President than is implied in the numerous cablegrams expressive of disapproval of his action.

The December number of the journal of the Institute of Bankers of New South Wales is a more than usually interesting one, containing articles on banking and monetary affairs of concern to banking readers. A paper contrasting the progress of the rival cities of Eastern Australia extends the comparison to the colonies of Victoria and New South Wales. It states that in the 20 years from 1873 the population of Victoria increased 52 per cent.; that of New South Wales 120 per cent. Turning to the commerce of the two colonies, it gives the following as the total amounts of imports and exports for the whole period from 1874 to 1893 inclusive (20 years):—

	Victoria.	New South Wales.
Imports	£362,970,116	£372,334,258
Exports	289,874,486	352,361,718
Excess of Imports	£73,095,630	£19,972,540

As regards shipping: Within the same period, the tonnage entered inwards and outwards for both colonies was as follows:—

	Victoria.	New South Wales.
Total shipping Tons,	61,353,120	Tons, 74,926,611
Number of vessels	89,562	104,927

The number of vessels for the first and last years of the period mentioned above was as follows:—

	1874.	1893.
Victoria	4,322	3,776
New South Wales	4,365	5,830

It will be seen that in the 10 years, ended 1893, while there was a considerable reduction in the number of vessels entering Victoria, there was a large increase in the number into New South Wales, and that the number into this colony exceeded the number into Victoria by 55 per cent.

So far this year the general course of prices of commodities in Great Britain has been higher than last year. Mr. Sauerbeck's monthly index numbers published in the *Times*, indicating the prices of 45 leading commodities, are as follow the average of 1867-77 being 100, and the figure for 1873, the highest point, 111:—

	1894.	1895.
January	63·8	60·0
February	65·0	60·0
March	64·8	60·8
April	63·8	61·7
May	61·1	62·5
June	63·1	62·4
July	62·6	62·6
August	63·0	62·3
September	62·7	62·5
October	61·7	62·4
November	60·6	—
December	60·1	—

Prices reached their lowest depth January and February this year; since then the movement has been upwards, and for July, August, September, and October, they were higher than in the corresponding months of last year. But they had not reached the figures current in and before April last year. As a matter of fact, in October there was a slight decline from the price level of September. Commenting on the arrest of the rise in prices, Mr. Sauerbeck writes: "The advance of prices has been arrested, and slight gains of some articles have been more than balanced by losses in the case of others. Materials remained, in the aggregate, unchanged, but meat ruled distinctly lower. My average index number of vegetable food—wheat, flour, barley, oats, maize, potatoes, and rice—for October is 52·3 (1867-77=100), and it is worth noting that this is the lowest on record, principally in consequence of a great fall in the value of maize and potatoes, and notwithstanding a rise of 5s to 7s for wheat since October last year." While the bulk of these commodities are still not very much in excess of the figures of 1894 it is satisfactory to note that wool and silver and some other Australian raw products are considerably above the prices of last year, which, of course, must make for the advantage of Australia in its trade with Great Britain.

IMPORT MARKET.

The only department of the Import market in which there was activity to-day was the liquor trade, in which a good deal was done for delivery between Christmas Day and the New Year. Breadstuffs were quiet, while in sugar and tea scarcely any business transpired, the only sale noted in the latter line being 30 chests of Indian pekoe souchong at 6d. Hardware was also quiet in all its branches, while in groceries and dried fruits only a small distributing business was done, chiefly of a sorting-up character. Jute goods showed no alteration, nor did any business of note occur in oils or chemicals. Importers generally do not expect to be kept very busy now until the 1st of January, when prices will probably be considerably disorganised until the market settles down.

Our cable message to-day regarding the production of beet sugar states that Herr F. O. Licht estimates that the campaign 1895-96 will show a deficiency of 663,000 tons as compared with that of 1894-5. On the 20th October last Herr Licht estimated the decrease of production as 806,515, so that the position has improved.

Large quantities of M'Ewan's ale moved off at agents' prices. The whole of the first shipment of 900 packages of bulk have been cleared ex Oroya, and three-quarters of the Parramatta's supply has also been placed, while case ale has all been delivered from the ship's side, ex Inverlochy, and a good portion of the Thermopylæ's cargo as well. Foster's and Allsopp's sold well at current rates. There was a little doing in Bulldog and Blood Woolfe stout. Of whiskies Brown's 4-Crown, Usher's, and Provost were in good request, while 350 cases of Gaelic were placed in three lines. Williams, in bulk, also met with good trade sales. Hennessy's brandy remains unchanged at 46s 6d to 46s 9d for 3-star, and 34s 6d to 34s 9d for 1-star. Lowndes' rum, Key Geneva, and Gilbey's dry gin sold steadily, as also did Wolfe's and Silverstream schnapps at agents' prices.

Hops were rather quiet, and sold at lower rates. 35 pockets of Kent's moved off at 11d per lb. Malt ruled quiet at from 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

It is understood that Messrs. Scott, Sibbald, and Co. have secured the tender for the ironwork required for the roof of the new municipal markets, consisting of several hundred tons of steel joists, plates, T's, and angles.

The total value of Imports into the port of Sydney for the week ended 21st December, 1895, amounted to £288,797. From 1st January to 21st December, 1895, the total value of imports amounted to £13,661,549, of which the principal items were:—

Article.	Week ending Dec. 21.	Total Jan. 1 to Dec. 21, inclusive.
Apparel and drapery	£47,508	£2,962,569
Beer	6,680	207,830
Boots and shoes	9,985	287,333
Drugs and chemicals	5,246	299,428
Flour	3,497	58,310
Furniture and upholstery	5,229	116,408
Gold (uncoined)	42,180	1,916,995
Hardware	18,168	828,374
Iron and steel	8,042	7?8,436
Jute goods	6,398	136,808
Machinery	4,345	223,847
Oilmen's stores	25,998	617,994
Paints and oils	5,555	264,805
Produce	11,011	677,719
Skins and hides	4,181	274,577
Stationery and books	10,206	417,862
Sugar	6,089	420,721
Tea	14,983	349,289
Timber	4,840	204,816
Wool	13,020	754,035

The total value of Exports out of the port of Sydney for the week ended 21st December, 1895, amounted to £427,254. From 1st January to 21st December, 1895, the total value of exports amounted to £13,946,570, of which the principal items were:—

Article.	Week ending Dec. 21.	Total Jan. 1 to Dec. 21, inclusive.
Apparel and drapery	£4,410	£173,906
Coin (gold)	7,340	2,885,302
Drugs and chemicals	2,163	72,544
Earthenware	1,078	14,881
Gold (uncoined)	14,406	570,865
Hardware	2,028	164,489
Iron and steel	1,012	41,177
Jewellery	1,009	32,120
Leather	14,088	258,817
Machinery	1,921	85,482
Manures	833	45,728
Meats	10,134	404,776
Oilmen's stores	1,673	112,530
Produce	2,284	87,429
Shale	6,277	83,721
Skins and hides	9,050	664,312
Sugar	2,660	78,578
Tallow	7,707	996,694
Tobacco and Cigars	1,572	47,369
Wool	294,210	6,518,139

M'Lean Brothers and Rigg, Limited, writing in their November monthly circular regarding the market for manufactured iron, state:—

Sheets, Bars, Hoops, &c.—Large orders for all these items are to hand, and makers report very full order books. Mills are running full time, and sheets, which are in exceptionally heavy demand, are 5s dearer, while hoops are 2s 6d better, and bars unmarked are quoted £5 15s, being an advance of 5s per ton, but this price is probably somewhat shaded. The Marked Bar Association have not altered their prices. Spelter: Steady, with only a quiet demand. Steel and Steel Rails: The improvement is maintained, but the threatened lockout by shipbuilders on the Clyde may seriously affect this market. Present order books are well filled, but new contracts are not very plentiful. Steel rail makers are full up. A recent date fair order for sharp delivery could not be executed to time in this country, and eventually was sent to the Continent. Tin Plates: Makers are doing their utmost to force up prices, but so far buyers have been successful; and, though from some centres prices are reported as better, it is rather doubtful. Fencing Wire, Wire Nails, and Netting: Fencing wire is a shade easier, but makers report full order books for early delivery. Nails and netting are a good market.

Return of produce received at Sydney per rail for the week ending 24th December:—

Butter, 996 bags and 713 cases; cheese, 35 cases; eggs, 694 cases; bacon, 262 sides; hay, 50 trucks; straw, 4 trucks; chaff, 140 trucks; wool, 9491 bales; sheepskins, 694 bales; wheat, 517 tons; flour, 267 tons; oats, 4 tons; barley, 46 tons; maize, 446 tons; meal, 2 tons; potatoes, 59 tons; bran, 186 tons; pollard, 112 tons.

The Customs revenue received at Sydney to-day amounted to £5074. The principal items were:—

Spirits, £1264; wine, still, £72; wine, sparkling, £18; ale, porter, and beer, in wood, £101; ale, porter, and beer, in bottles, £164; tobacco and snuff, £194; tobacco, for manufacturing purposes only, £137; cigars, £158; cigarettes, £38; sugar, unrefined, £502; rice, £57; dried fruits, £130. Specific duties: Bacon and hams, &c., £21; butter, £106; cement, £115; cocoa and chocolate, £31; confectionery, £23; flour, £20; fruits, green, £62; galvanised iron, £267; hay and chaff, £33; oil, kerosene, £11; onions, £24; paints and colours in oil, £13; starch, &c., £35; timber, undressed, £78. Ad valorem: 10 per cent., £59; 15 per cent., £11. Harbour and light rates, £103; pilotage, Sydney, £46; excise on tobacco, £762; excise on beer, £169. Total, £5074.

EXPORT MARKET.

At Darling Harbour to-day 1051 bales of wool were manifested, 988 arrived coastwise, and 99 bales were received by rail at Newcastle yesterday.

Regarding the sudden fall in the price of Danish butter recorded in our cable messages, Messrs. W. Weddel and Co., writing from London on 15th November, state:—

The Copenhagen committee have once more distinguished themselves by an extraordinary lowering of the f.o.b. quotation. Not content with a reduction of 12 kroner per cwt. last week, they have dropped it another 10 kroner, this making a total of 22s for the fortnight, which, we believe, is unprecedented. The quotations to-day are: Choicest factory, 99s to 108s; finest factory, 90s to 98s. The action of the Copenhagen committee during the last few weeks is fast sapping the confidence of English buyers, and it looks as if gambling and speculation were controlling the committee rather than the desire to ascertain the actual market value of butter and fix its price accordingly. The present extreme lowering of price is as injudicious as the excessive raising of it was previously. Though this week's quotation approximates to the selling price of Danish in England, there can be little doubt that this selling price is more or less panicky. A reduction of only 4 kroner would have been ample. The *Danish Butter Journal* says:—"No doubt our prices on this side had been run up too rapid and too far, but they were dictated by an unusually brisk demand for many consecutive weeks, and there was nothing artificial about them." This apology is something to be thankful for, but it would have been better to have fully and frankly confessed the error, and not tried to explain it away. If raising the price beyond market value so as to utterly stop demand is not fixing an "artificial" price, our Danish apologist will have to issue a new definition of artificial.

COMMERCIAL TELEGRAMS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

Wheat is firm at 4s 3d; 1500 bags of new wheat sold at 4s 2½d to 4s 3d. Bran sold from second hands at 11½d to 1s; 30,000 bushels of bran were sold for export. 1250 bags of new Algerian oats have been sold at from 2s 6½d to 2s 7d. Maize, 3s 5s. Chaff is dull up to £4 7s 6d. New potatoes, £4 15s to £5. Onions are up to £4. 250 tons Middlesborough pig iron have been sold. Cream of tartar, 11½d; citric acid, 1s 4½d; bicarb. soda, £9 10s.

Business of only moderate extent was transacted on the Stock Exchange this morning, and the Exchange was then closed for the holidays. Sales comprised Mount Lyell 6 per cent., £133; Broken Hill Water Supply, 13s 6d; Silverton Tramway, £5 7s 6d; Melbourne Tramways, 14s 1½d.

PRODUCE INWARDS.

HOBART, Tuesday.

The s.s. Oonah left for Sydney to-day with the following cargo:—64 bundles bark, 30 bundles willows, 4 cases jam, 57 casks fruit, 4850 bags ore, 24 cases fruit, 3 cheese, 104 bales hops, 1 case leather, 80 bags fruit, 19 crates fruit, 2450 staves, 976 half-cases fruit, and sundries.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

The Leura sailed to-day for Sydney with 575 bags onions, 155 bags wheat, 628 cases fruit, 175 bags malt, 150 bags flour, 50 half-bags flour, 180 quarter-bags flour, 59 bags potatoes, 77 chests tea, 45 cases lemons, 50 bags oats, 75 cases butter.

PALMER ISLAND, Tuesday.

The Kallatina (s.) left Palmer Island at 6.30 a.m. to-day. The cargo consisted of 101 bags potatoes, 174 bales wool, 39 cases eggs, 4 cases fish, 1 cask tallow, 2 coops poultry, 30 hides, 6 cans cream, 30 packages sundries.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS.—TUESDAY.

TRADE IN SUSSEX-STREET.

A very limited amount of business was done in the produce trade along the wharfs to-day. Primest lucerne hay realised up to £2 15s per ton. New local potatoes met with fair demand at late rates. New potatoes from New Zealand were rather quiet. These potatoes cut rather yellow, and consequently the trade are not anxious to buy this class of tuber when there are plenty of local sorts available. Business in dairy products, as usual before Christmas Day, was very active. Butter was in good request. Bacon, hams, and eggs sold readily; but cheese met with only a small amount of attention. Poultry was in brisk demand, and anything prime realised high prices.

FEED-GRAINS MARKET.

The following are the quotations:—

Maize.—River maize quoted 3s to 3s 3d, according to quality; prime inland, 3s 3d to 3s 4d per bushel.

Oats.—Prime, 2s 9d to 2s 10d per bushel.

Cape Barley.—Quoted at 3s per bushel.

Peas.—Blue, prime, 4s 9d; grey, 4s 3d per bushel.

Chickwheat.—Best whole samples, 3s 11d to 4s 3d; screenings, 3s 6d per bushel.

BRAN AND POLLARD.

Both these items were quiet at quotations. Bran was quoted at 11d and pollard at 12d per bushel.

BREADSTUFFS.

The associated millers quote best roller flour at £11 per ton, and new at £9 10s. Intercolonial wheat is nominal; new local wheat, 4s to 4s 3d per bushel.

FORAGE MARKET.

The current quotations are:—

Chaff.—Imported chaff; Prices nominal. Adelaide—Prime, £5. Tasmanian—Prime, £4 10s. Local—Prime, £5 to £5 4s 6d; medium, £4 10s; off quality, £4 per ton.

Hay.—Local oaten, in bundles: Prime, £6 10s; medium, £5 to £5 10s per ton.

Straw.—Local: Derrick-pressed, £4; Tasmanian, £3 5s; bundled, £3 to £3 10s per ton.

Lucerne.—Hunter River: Prime green, £2 10s to £2 15s; medium, £2 to £2 5s. Railway—Prime, up to £3 7s 6d; medium, £2 15s per ton.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

To-day's closing quotations were:—

Eggs.—Firm. Good demand; 12d per dozen.

Cheese.—Fair demand, 6d to 6½d; choice, 7d; New Zealand, 6d to 7d per lb.

Butter.—Scarce. Finest creamery, 13d; best factory, 12½d; dairy, 11d. Berrima finest creamery 13d, factory best 12½d; South Coast and West Camden quote best creamery 13d, factory 12½d per lb.; Berry creamery, 13d per lb.

Bacon and Hams.—Hand-cured, 6½d; machine, 5½d to 6d; farmers' lots, 3½d to 4½d; choice, 5d; local hams, out of cloth 6d to 8d, in cloth 9d per lb.

Poultry.—Young fowls and turkeys scarce. Good demand. Fowls, 2s 9d to 3s, prime young 4s to 5s; ducks, good 3s to 4s 6d; geese, 5s 6d, special lots 7s to 8s; turkeys, cocks 15s to 20s, hens 6s to 10s per pair.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Onions.—New globes, £5 10s per ton.

Honey.—Garden honey, 3d; bush honey, 2d to 2½d per lb.

Beeswax.—Choice, 1s to 1s 1d per lb.

Lard.—Finely rendered, in bladders, 5d; bulk, 4½d per lb.

WOOD SALES.

At Darling Harbour to-day sales were fairly brisk. Closing quotations were:—Footwood, from 6s 3d to 7s; good, 8s to 10s 3d; bakers' large, green 5s to 5s 6d, dry 6s; split, from 6s 6d to 7s 6d; billet, 7s to 7s 6d, inferior 4s 6d to 5s; bundled, 6s to 10s per ton.

POTATO MARKET.

Potatoes.—Circulars, £2 15s; new local, Hunter River and Clarence River, £6 10s; New Zealand, new, £5 to £5 10s per ton.

REDFERN SALE.

There was no sale held at the Redfern Terminus Produce Markets this morning.

Appended are the proportions of the various descriptions of produce manifested to arrive to-day:—Chaff 20 trucks, hay 2, potatoes 34 bags, bran 136 bags, maize 1162 bags.

FRUIT MARKETS.

At the various metropolitan fruit markets this morning only a fair supply of fruit was available. The demand, generally speaking, was somewhat quieter than it was yesterday, and prices in most cases ruled easier. Cherries met with fairly brisk demand at lower prices. Apricots sold well, as also did plums. Lemons and oranges were dull of sale, especially the latter. A fair quantity of currants were offered, and they met with a fair amount of attention at the prices quoted. Bananas were in good request at unchanged rates. The demand for pines was quiet at a slight reduction in values. Gooseberries found buyers readily owing to the small quantity on the market. Peaches were scarce, and agents who were fortunate enough to have any to sell had no difficulty in realising high prices for choice samples. The market will be closed to-morrow (Wednesday). On Boxing Day it will only be open until 10 o'clock.

Current quotations are:—

Lemons.—11s to 12s, choice 15s per gincase; Mansina, 18s to 20s per case.

Apples.—Small, 3s to 4s; cooking, 5s to 6s; eating, 8s to 12s per gincase, extra choice, 7s per half-case.

Oranges.—Pulled oranges, inferior, 5s to 6s; good medium, 10s to 11s; choice seedlings, 12s to 14s per gincase.

Pineapples.—Fair supply. Quiet demand. Common to prime Hobart, 4s to 8s; green, 5s to 6s; Queens, 9s to 10s per case.

Grapes.—Early clusters, 3d per lb.

Strawberries.—Hobart, 1s to 1s 6d per quart.

Cocoanuts.—8s per case.

Water Melons.—Clarence River, 8s to 9s per dozen.

Cherries.—Melbourne: Florence, 4s to 6s; Marguerites, 4s 6d to 6s. Hobart: Florence, 10s to 12s; Biggareaus 7s to 10s per quarter-case.

Passion Fruit.—Small, 4s; good, 6s to 7s per half-case.

Cucumbers.—1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel case.

Plums.—Black, 9s to 10s; Lotherborough, 6s to 8s per gincase; Japanese, 4s to 6s per half, and Hobart, 4s 6d per quarter-case.

Figs.—Fair demand. 3s to 3s 6d per tray box; choice, 4s 6d to 5s per dozen.

Gooseberries.—4s 6d to 5s 6d per quarter-case.

Apricots.—Good demand; 10s to 14s per gincase, 7s to 10s per half-case. Melbourne, 6s to 7s; choice, 10s to 11s per packer, and 3s 6d to 4s 6d per quarter-case.

Peaches.—Early Newington, small, 6s to 8s per gincase; choice, 8s to 10s per half-case; slipstones, 9s to 10s per half-case.

Pears.—Jargonelle, 3s to 4s 6d; other sorts, 3s 6d to 7s per gincase.

Tomatoes.—Queensland, 1s to 1s 3d; local, ripe 3s to 4s 6d, green 1s 6d to 2s 6d per quarter-case.

Bananas.—Poor supply; good 1s 6d to 3s per bunch.

Nectarines.—Small 5s, good 7s to 10s per half-case.

Mandarins.—6s to 8s per gincase.

Currants.—Red 6s, white and black 6s to 7s per quarter-case, or 6s per dozen quarts.

VEGETABLE MARKET.

A very good supply of vegetables was on the Belmore Markets very early this morning. At 6 o'clock the market was almost glutted, especially with peas and French beans. The demand throughout the sale was brisk, but it took up till about 10 o'clock before all the vegetables offering were sold. Peas at the beginning of the sale brought 5s, but when large quantities were placed on the market prices fell to 2s 6d to 3s per bushel. French beans opened at 4s, but values fell to 6d per bushel. Cabbages found ready sale at from 1s to 5s per dozen. Bunch stuff met with good inquiry and prices on the whole ruled a shade firmer. Vegetable marrows sold at reduced prices, as also did tomatoes and cucumbers.

Quotations are as follow:—Cabbages, medium 1s to 3s, choice 4s to 5s per dozen; peas, local, 2s 6d to 3s per bushel; carrots, 9d to 1s 3d; white turnips, 1s to 1s 6d; lettuce, 6d to 9d; radishes, 6d; parsnips, 1s to 1s 3d; herbs, 1s 6d; mint, 1s; eschalots, 1s; leeks, 1s; parsley, 1s; horse-radish, 6s to 8s; watercress, 1s to 1s 6d; asparagus, 4s to 5s per dozen bundles; tomatoes, local, Chinese 2s to 4s, European 2s to 4s 6d per quarter-case; rhubarb, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; French beans, 6d to 9d per bushel; vegetable marrows, 1s to 3s per dozen; kidney potatoes, 8s to 10s; Early Rose, 8s to 8s 6d per cwt.; cucumbers, local, 6d to 1s per dozen; celery, 3s 6d per dozen bunches.

CHILLED MEAT SALES.

Messrs. M'Master and Hudson (the Country Killed Meat Agency) report good supplies of beef forward during the week. There was a marked improvement in prices all round. Mutton was scarce for local sale, lots forward being intended for export. Our consignments consisted of supplies of beef and mutton from the Young districts, through the Young Chilling Works; also from various country districts. Quotations are as under:—Beef: Extra prime, bodies 2½d, hinds 2½d, fores 1¾d; prime, bodies 2d, hinds 2½d, fores 1½d; medium, bodies 1½d, hinds 1½d, fores 1d to 1½d. Mutton: Prime, 1d; medium, ¾d.

THE CITY YARDS.

Messrs. Maiden Brothers.—Pigs: Owing to the holidays this week, the principal sale was held on Monday, when prices were exceptionally good for all descriptions, but prices fell away on Tuesday, owing to the small attendance of buyers present. Calves: Supplies penned were well within requirements, and prices were very firm for all good to prime quality.

MELBOURNE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

In the Live Stock Market to-day 1380 fat cattle were entered for sale, but several lots not drawn for came forward, which increased the total to fully 1500 head, comprising 50 from New South Wales, 650 from the North-Eastern and Goulburn districts, 300 from Gippsland, 180 from the Westward, and the remainder chiefly from paddocks near town. A fair proportion consisted of good and prime qualities. The market opened with a small attendance of buyers, when prices ruled easier, especially in heavy weights, but as the sales progressed prices gradually hardened, closing at about last week's rates. Quotations were:—Prime pens bullocks, £8 to £9 12s 6d; good pens bullocks, £6 10s to £7 10s; second and lighter, £5 10s to £6 5s; inferior from £4. Very few prime cows were yarded. Best pens cows, £4 10s to £5 5s; second ditto ditto, £3 to £4; inferior, from £2. 920 fat lambs were penned. The demand was dull, and prices ruled lower throughout. Quotations:—Prime steers and heifers, 45s to 65s; second ditto, 30s to 40s; prime calves from 35s to 50s; prime small vealers, 20s to 30s; others from 10s.

MELBOURNE FRUIT MARKET.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

In the Queen Victoria Market this morning there was a large supply of all seasonable fruits, and low prices ruled except for choicest lots. Green almonds sold at 2s per half-case; apples, 2s to 3s 6d per case; apricots, 1d to 3d per lb; cherries, 1d to 3d per lb; currants, black, 4d to 4½d per lb; ditto, red, 2d to 3d per lb; ditto, white, 3d per lb; figs, 9d to 1s per dozen; green gooseberries, 1½d per quart; ripe ditto, 1½d to 2d per lb.; oranges, 3s to 10s per case; Sydney lemons, 8s to 10s per case; Lisbon ditto, 10d to 1s per dozen; loquats, 1d to 2d per lb.; mulberries, 2½d to 3d per lb.; peaches, 2d to 4d per lb; pears, 2s to 3s 6d per case; plums, 3s to 3s 6d per case; raspberries, 2½d to 4d per lb.; strawberries, 4d to 10d per lb.

THE ENGLISH WINE TRADE.

(*Speaker*.)

For centuries two most formidable difficulties have confronted those engaged in the wine trade in this country. Of these two difficulties one may be said to have wholly disappeared, while the other exists, but with diminished force. The first of these difficulties was the extreme hostility with which Government after Government and Administration after Administration sought to prevent the importation of foreign commodities into this country. So far did this hostility go that under the early Plantagenets the import of even French wine from the French provinces which belonged to the King of England was strictly forbidden under the heaviest penalties. But, like all such measures, it was found impossible to administer the strict letter of the law. While Edward III. threatened the life of a wine merchant who would bring claret from Bordeaux to London, the Black Prince, who acted as his father's viceroy in that district, encouraged the trade to the utmost of his power. The result was that in spite of nominally heavy penalties on the statute book, and of the very serious risks the importers had to run, the fact remained that the wine trade improved and prospered. This hostility towards imported commodities we know in our own time under the name of "protection." And although there are certain individuals who at this end of the nineteenth century cannot see any advantage in admitting foreign goods of any kind into this country, the great mass of the nation have long since decided against them. The other formidable difficulty to which we refer, and which to a large extent still remains, is the fact that the commodity we buy in the form of wine is essentially cheap, with the exception of the few rare brands which are reserved for the tables of the very wealthy. The high prices which we have to pay for wine are almost wholly—or, at any rate, to a very large extent—represented by the difference in the cost of production and the very large revenue which the Government demands on every hogshead which comes into this country. It is perfectly true that successive Liberal Administrations have again and again reduced the duties upon imported wines; but it is a regrettable fact that even the cheapest wines are still beyond the reach of the working classes. We say "regrettable fact" advisedly. England produces no wine, and our working classes are therefore driven to consume either beer or spirits. Beer is a very heavy liquor, except for people of strong digestive powers; and ardent spirits are an exceedingly dangerous habitual drink. If our legislators could see their way so to reduce the duties, the cheaper kinds of wine, like *vin ordinaire* and the cheaper Italian wines, might be as readily obtained by our workman as his glass of beer. And glass after glass of beer in a temperature of 70 degrees tends to stupefy the clearest intelligence; whereas, as any reader can satisfy himself, the workmen of Paris and other large continental cities drink enormous draughts of *vin ordinaire* without the slightest ill-effect.

THE PREMIER AND THE UNEMPLOYED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—I think it is most unjust on the part of Mr. Miller to charge you with trying to justify the "apathy of the Government" in dealing with the unemployed. No apathy on the part of the Government is in evidence; no justification required. The Government could not be apathetic upon the question, even if the individual members were heartless and brutal beings who could look upon human misery with indifference. The constant trouble and worry the Government is subject to about this question preclude the possibility of apathy. The members of the Government are human beings, with ordinary human sympathies for misery in any guise. To call the Government apathetic simply because it has sense enough not to attempt impossibilities is one way of adding to the difficulties of an already difficult position. Starving men are easily induced to believe that Government could find them food and work to an unlimited extent if it felt inclined to do so, because, as a matter of fact, Government can, and has, provided relief up to a certain limit; but the serious consequences of continuing beyond that limit render further aid impossible, and when any person—no matter how pure and unselfish his intent may be—urges the Government beyond the point of safely assisting, by adding the flame of resentment against it, on the score of apathy, to the forces already operating, he burdens himself—to use Mr. Miller's own words, otherwise applied—with "fearful responsibilities." A perfect analogy exists between the relation of the Government and the unemployed and the surgeon and the patient he operates upon—seemingly cruel, in reality kind.

When the surgeon is satisfied that his patient cannot be cured by nursing, he uses his knife with cruel kindness to save the patient's life. The Government has tried to nurse away the unemployed by relief works, but the unemployed trouble has got worse, and the knife must now be used with cruel kindness to save the life of the colony. Mr. Miller is quite right in saying that the functions of government have steadily grown with the necessities of our social evolution; and I think he must understand that we have not yet evolved to the point that makes it possible for a Government to find its duty in providing work for all. We may probably be travelling in the direction of the happy co-operative existence so attractively depicted in "Looking Backward" and "Merrie England," but we cannot reach such conditions of highly-organised co-operative action at a jump, no matter how warily we make the spring. If the Government to-day takes upon itself the duty of providing work for all the unemployed, it attempts to reach at a jump a position in industrial economics that can only be reached by slow and wary steps; the jump would be abortive, and succeeded by miseries and horrors compared with which our present troubles would be merely trivial. This is not a mere fanciful statement; any average man may follow the effect of such a jump right down to social and industrial chaos.

The Government, I am sure, would only be too glad to find work for every unemployed unit in the colony if it could but see a way to do so without involving the colony in absolute ruin. I am, &c.,

December 21. ALBERT DAWSON.

TO ABSENT FRIENDS.

Send the Christmas number of the *Sydney Mail*. Now ready. The subject of the presentation picture, "A Camel Train on the Paroo," is thoroughly Australian, whilst Christmas stories and seasonable reading will make this number an acceptable Christmas greeting. Posted throughout New South Wales, 6½d; adjoining colonies, 7d; Great Britain, America, and the Continent, 10d.

Your newsagent will supply, or direct to the Head Office, Pitt, O'Connell, and Hunter streets.—[ADVT.]

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Our renowned qualities, known to Buyers as Well Cut and Good Fitting, made from first-quality Longcloth and Linen.

Open Behind, Round or Square Cuffs ... 3s 9d, 5s, 6s, 7s 6d upwards
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Evening Dress SHIRTS, to fasten in Front or Behind ... 5s 6d and 6s 6d
With Piqué Fronts and Cuffs ... 8s 6d
With Collars attached, Round or Square Cuffs ... 4s 6d, 5s 6d, 9s 6d
Boys' White SHIRTS, in All Sizes ... from 3s 6d each

SPECIAL NOTE.—In each quality a Liberal Concession will be made for Half-dozens.

LINEN COLLARS.

We are constantly adding New Shapes in these; the Linen used is the Most Durable, and the Quality and Finish Excellent.

Men's Linen COLLARS, in any shape ... 9s dozen
Boys' Linen COLLARS ... 8s dozen

TENNIS SHIRTS.

White Oxford MAT, with Collar and Pocket ... 3s 6d, 4s 6d, 6s 6d
Fancy Oxford MAT, ditto ditto ditto ... 5s, 6s, 8s 6d
Ceylon FLANNEL, ditto ditto ditto ... 2s 9d, 3s 6d, 5s 6d
WHITE FLANNEL, ditto ditto ditto ... 3s 6d, 5s
White and Striped CASHMERE, ditto ditto ditto ... 7s 6d, 8s 6d, 10s
Cream and Fancy SILK, ditto ditto ditto ... 12s 6d, 19s 6d, 21s
Boys' Tennis SHIRTS, in various Makes and Sizes.

PYJAMA SUITS,

cut to our Special Measures, and in sizes to fit Slight, Medium, and Stout figures.

Fancy FLANNELETTES, best quality ... 4s 6d and 5s
Ceylon FLANNEL ... 6s 6d, 7s 6d, 8s 6d, to 12s 6d
Oxford MAT ... 7s 6d, 10s 6d, 13s 6d.

SPECIAL VALUE.—50 dozen SILK STRIPED PYJAMAS, price 7s 6d, worth 10s 6d suit.

VICTORIA HOUSE,
SYDNEY.

MINING INTELLIGENCE.

Yesterday there were only the morning and noon meetings of the Sydney Stock Exchange, which then closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays, to reopen on 6th January, 1896. The business that was done was on a limited scale. In copper, Lake George United had sales at 8s, 7s 10½d. The only silver stock dealt in was North Central, which had business at both meetings at firm rates, realising 2s 4d, 2s 5d, 2s 4d, 2s 5d, 2s 4½d, 2s 5d, with strong quotations at the close. Mount Charlotte Central (W.A.) was the favourite gold stock, fetching 1s 9½d, 1s 10d, 1s 9½d. Long Tunnel (Vic.) changed hands at £73 10s, and South Star (Ballarat) at 18s 8d. The market closed with a very good feeling, and with very little noteworthy change in quotations.

Sydney Stock Exchange.—The latest quotations were:—

	Buyer.	Seller.
COAL.		
Hetton	40/	—
Newcastle	5	—
Stockton	4/3	4/9
Vale of Clywdd	4/	—
Wallsend	20½	21
Waratah	40/	—
Wickham and Bullock Island	8/9	9/
COPPER.		
Great Cobar	15/3	—
New Mount Hope	2/	3/6
Lake George United	7/9	8/
SILVER.		
Broken Hill	56/	57/
Block 10	78/6	80/
Block 14	26/3	28/
B.H. North	7/9	8/6
North Central	2/5	2/6
Junction N'th	12/	12/3
Mount Lyell	75/	—
GOLD.		
Baker's Creek	—	15/
Brilliant Extended	7/10	8/3
Golden Zone	9/3	10/3

	Buyer.	Seller.
Croesus Extended	2/4	2/6
Ditto, cont.	8/	—
Great Boulder	5/8	5/12/6
Hannan's Reward North	4/6	5/
Hustler's Reef, Bendigo, No. 1	4/3	4/6
Kapai-Vermont	8/0	—
Monte Cristo, cont.	—	2/
Mount Allen, cont.	—	1/
Mount Charlotte Centr'l	1/9	1/10
Mount Dryedale Prop.	1/3	—
Mount Gahan	4/6	5/
Occidental	—	2/6
Papuan Cha. Towers	15/	—
Peak Hill	1/6½	1/11
Ditto, con.	9½d	10d
Reefer's Eureka	8/6	10/6
Walter Scott	—	6/
Woodstock	4/1	4/6
Ditto, con.	2/	2/6

The following sales were reported:—Morning—Copper: Lake George United, 8s. Silver: North Central, 2s 4d, 2s 5d, 2s 4d. Gold: Mount Charlotte Central, 1s 9½d; Long Tunnel, £73 10s. Noon—Copper: Lake George United, 7s 10½d. Silver: North Central, 2s 5d, 2s 4½d, 2s 5d. Gold: Mount Charlotte Central, 1s 10d, 1s 9½d; South Star, Ballarat, 18s 8d.

In a recent issue our Parkes correspondent furnished some particulars of a rich discovery of gold in Mr. Best's tank, at Currajong, near Parkes. We have been furnished with a more circumstantial account of the find. It appears that the tank, which is only about 50 yards distant from the pioneer reef of the district, had run dry. An old miner noticed the gold, and offered to sink the tank a few yards deeper if Mr. Best would allow him and his mate to have the gold. It was eventually decided to share whatever was found, and soon after sinking a rich shoot was discovered. Mr. Travers Jones, M.L.A., an old mining expert, was immediately sent for, and a syndicate was formed on the strength of his report. Loose nuggets were taken out, ranging from 2 to 5 oz. each, and one of 14oz. was found, while Mr. Travers Jones washed a prospecting dish of rubble which yielded 14oz. The tank lies between the far-famed Bushman's, Dayspring, and Hazelhurst reefs, being in the vicinity of the original reef, which has yielded as much as 30oz. per ton. The tank was opened out about 16 years ago, and the refuse used as road-metal. The discovery is in a diorite formation. It is intended to float a company to work this leader.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.)

ADELAIDE, Tuesday.

Business in the share market to-day was very dull. The Stock Exchange will not be opened again until the 6th January. Sales included Proprietary, 54s 9d, 55s; British, new, 11s; North Central, 2s 4d; Junction, 46s; South, paid, 15s 6d; Junction North, 12s 1½d; Elsanora, 12s, 11s 9d; Great Boulder, £5 10s, £5 9s, £5 10s 6d; Brown Hill Junction, 4s 3½d, 4s 1d; Block 45, 15s 1½d, 15s; Croesus, 11s; ditto Proprietary, 1s 2d, 1s 3d; Coolgardie, 40s 3d, 40s 6d; Golden Zone, contributing, 7s 11d, 8s; Hannan's Reward North, 4s 7d; Hannan's Victoria Cross, 2s 7d, 3s 1½d; Kirkpatrick Mount Benson, paid, 8s; Lake View, 48s; Mount Charlotte Central, 1s 8d; Marilana Central, 2s 10d, 2s 10½d; ditto North, 4s 1d; ditto Extended, 1s 11½d; Mount Benson, 9s 10d; Reefer's Eureka, 9s 9d; Three Colonies, 6s 7d; ditto Extended, 4s 11d.

BRISBANE, Tuesday.

The Brisbane Stock Exchange sales to-day were:—Queensland Menzies, paid, 8s 10d; ditto, contributing, 6s 3d, 6s 6d.

CARCOAR, Tuesday.

Five tons of stone crushed at Messrs. Woodward and Sons' battery, at Galley Swamp, from Birrell and party's claim, at Kane's Reef, North Galley Swamp, have yielded 8½oz. of free gold.

CHARTERS TOWERS, Tuesday.

To-day's sales were:—Day Dawn Block, 9s 6d; East Golden Surprise, 8½d; Golden Surprise, 3s 6d; Imperial No. 2 West, 10d; Hidden Treasure, 8d; Kelly's Queen Block, 13s 6d; Warrior, 5d; Brilliant Freehold, paid up, 11s 9d; Day Dawn and North Australian, 6d; Millican's, 2s 2d; New Brilliant, 8s 1d; Papuan Brilliant Victoria, 17s (forward delivery); Victoria, 9s 3d. Brilliant St. George crushed 760 tons for 1606oz. gold.

COBAR, Tuesday.

The Cobar copper mine closed on Sunday for a week on account of the holidays. The Great Western mine cleaned up on Sunday 113 tons of stone for 223oz. of gold. The Young Australian mine also cleaned up on Sunday 290 tons of stone for a yield of 500oz. of gold.

HILLGROVE, Tuesday.

The Baker's Creek clean up for the half-year, of eight days' crushing, resulted in 1064oz. 1dwt. smelted gold. At the Hopetoun Blocks Pike and party crushed at the public crushing battery 9½ tons for 6½oz. smelted gold, and the same battery crushed 11 tons from the Lady Carrington prospectors for a yield of 5oz. 1dwt. smelted gold.

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.

There was a quiet market for silver shares to-day. Broken Hill Block 10 sold at 80s; Proprietary, at 55s; North Junction, 12s; North Broken, 9s; Central Mount Lyell (Tas.), 2s; South Mount Lyell, 6s 6d; Curtis and Davis Extended, 7s 6d. Among Victorian gold companies, Band and Albion sold at 10s 6d to 10s 9d; Berry Extended, 40s 3d, 40s; Great South Long Tunnel, 20s 9d, 23s; Hepburn Estate, 9s 6d; Lord Nelson, 21s; South Star, 19s.

The New Chum mine at Corryong cleaned up a crushing of 30 tons to-day, which yielded 235oz. smelted gold, or a fraction under 8oz. to the ton. Sixteen tons from the Just in Time claim returned 56½oz.

WEST WYALONG, Tuesday.

Mining matters are very slack, owing to the holidays. Large numbers of miners have left. Most of the batteries will take advantage of the holidays to renovate their machinery.

Rostron and party are stoping on good stone, from the 60ft. level in the Yorkshire Lass claim, and there are 9 tons at grass. West's battery has just finished a crushing of 9 tons of stone for King and party, for a total yield of 13oz. 15dwt. The battery has also crushed 48 tons of seconds for the Rose of England claim, for a total yield of 22oz. of gold. Two other small parcels are now being crushed at the battery, after which the mill will hang up for necessary renovation.

Channon's battery on Saturday made a partial cleaning up of Prosser and party's Leger stone, 112 tons of which have returned 90oz. of gold. A considerable quantity of stone has yet to go through this battery from the Leger claim. Stanley's, Blow and party, are still raising large quantities of stone, and have three large paddocks. Hennessey and party are sinking to cut the reef at about 150ft. The Torn Cheque party are sinking on a large reef, the quality so far being rather poor. Fair progress is being made with the erection of Climo's Chlorination Works. The Hell Fire Jack tributers to-day finished a crushing of 25 tons at Nicholas and Beymonds's battery, yielding 35oz. 4dwt. 6gr. of gold. Conway and party follow on at the same battery. The True Blue stone now going through this mill is reported to be looking well. The next crushing at Channon's battery will be the Christmas Gift stone, which will commence on the 26th instant. Wye and party have finished crushing a parcel of 80 tons at Gough's No. 2 battery, which went considerably over 3oz. per ton. This battery is shut down till 6th January for the Christmas holidays. Exceptionally rich mineralised stone is being raised in Fowke and party's Hidden Treasure claim.

PAMBULA, Tuesday.

At an extraordinary meeting of shareholders of the Great Victory Gold-mining Company, the agreement between the company and Mr. W. J. Tweedie, one of the tributors, was ratified and confirmed. This virtually makes Mr. Tweedie sole proprietor, he having the right of purchase at a fixed sum at any time during his tribute. He is expected back to-day after having put through about 40 tons of ore by a new process. The yield is said to be nearly 20oz. per ton. The Jingera Proprietary mine closed down yesterday for the holidays. Several miners are going to their respective homes with the view of bringing back their wives and families. The weather is still keeping terribly hot and dry.

DIVIDENDS.

The following dividends have been declared payable on the respective dates named:—

Bulgandra Lone Hand G. M. Company.—December 31, 3d.

B. H. Block 14.—January 15, 1s.

The B. H. Proprietary Company, Limited.—January 15, 1s.

Broken Hill Water Supply.—January 17, 6d.

Broken Hill Junction Company.—January 18, 1s.

Brilliant G. M. Company, Charters Towers.—6d.

Victoria G. M. Company, Charters Towers.—January 7, 6d.

Glenmire No. 1 North.—December 30, 1s.

Phoenix Company, Gympie.—1s.

CALLS.

The Stewart's Brook G. M. Company, N.L.—January 8, 3d.

Victory (Charters Towers) G. M. Company.—March 31, 6d.

YIELDS.

GOLD.

Birrell and party, North Galley Swamp, Carcoar, 5 tons, 8½oz.

Great Western Gold-mining Company, Cobar, 113 tons, 223oz.

Hepburn Estate, Smeaton, 165oz. 3dwt.

Lady Carrington, Hillgrove, 11 tons, 5oz. 1dwt.

North Woah Hawp, Ballarat, 333 tons, 133oz. 18dwt.

New Normanby, Ballarat, 564 tons, 175oz. 10dwt. 6gr.

Pike and party, Hillgrove, 9½ tons, 6½oz.

Prentice Freehold, Rutherglen, 270oz. 6dwt.

South Star, Sebastopol, 813 tons, 405oz. 14dwt.

The Democrat G. M. Company, Glen Wills, 71 tons, 37oz. 17dwt.

The Occidental G. M. Company, Cobar, 368 tons, 51oz. 2dwt.

The New Chum, Corryong, 30 tons, 235oz.

SILVER.

The Broken Hill Proprietary Block 14, 502 tons, 14,480oz.

The Baker's Creek Gold-mining Company, Hillgrove, 1064oz.

The Young Australian, Cobar, 290 tons, 500oz.

MANAGERS' REPORTS.

British Queen, Ballarat, December 21.—No. 4 level: South drive on indicator extended 10ft. No. 2 level: South drive extended 12ft. No. 1 level: Stopes showing plenty of stone of fair quality.

Eldorado, Ballarat, December 21.—Machine on the mine, and timber almost all delivered.

Hepburn Estate, Smeaton, December 21.—No. 1 shaft: No change in rise near shaft since last report. No. 2 shaft: Sunk 10ft., total 88ft.; rock a little softer in bottom. Men now engaged slabbing up. Yield for week, 165oz. 3dwt.

Last Chance United, Ballarat, December 21.—Shaft sunk 5ft. in nice slate country; passed through 2ft. of stone; intermediate level extended 10ft. Stone looking little better. Stopes at all levels looking well.

Linton United, Ballarat, December 21.—North drive extended 6ft; lode 3ft. wide, carrying fair gold on the hanging wall. Stopes over north drive lode 18in. wide; can see gold occasionally. Will clean up on Saturday.

North Woah Hawp, Ballarat, December 21.—Crushed 333 tons for 133oz. 18dwt. Mine will be stopped until after holidays for repairs to machinery and putting up new brace.

New Normanby, Ballarat, December 21.—Crushed 564 tons for 175oz. 10dwt. 6gr. Stopes are looking fair. Have started driving south at 800ft. level. Indicator stone at 900ft. is showing gold in breaking.

Prentice Freehold, Rutherglen, December 21.—In consequence of ground settling, as stated in last report, very few parties panelling during week, consequently usual area of bottom not uncovered. No panelling being done in principal part of lead. Leading drive north from No. 12 in wash of fair quality. East drive same shoot 250ft. in payable wash, which has dipped below level of drive, and carries a little water, which shows the lead is making wider at this point. Wash is 8in. over back of east drive from No. 12 shoot. Cutting lay-off in reef drive for next shoot. Yield, 270oz. 6dwt.

Star of the East, Sebastopol, December 21.—No. 1 shaft, 2000ft. level: West crosscut has been lengthened 21ft., now in 177ft. East crosscut same level driven 18ft., full length 247ft. 1800ft. level, south end: No. 8 rise is up 45ft. from level, in clean country. No material change in the appearance of the stopes. 1100ft. level: North drive advanced 14ft., making from crosscut 300ft.; lode small. No. 2 shaft: Fair progress is being made with the pit work. The lower plunger chamber is drawing near completion, and am getting on well with the recesses at the lower level.

South Star, Sebastopol, December 21.—2000ft. level: North drive in 1066ft.; track, 9ft. wide; 14in. of well-mineralised stone on footwall. 1400ft. level: Have been engaged securing roof, will now start to cut a landing; the ground is troublesome on account of the water coming from the back. 910ft. level: North drive in 179ft.; south drive in 169ft.; both faces drive wide of payable stone. Main winze sunk 8ft.; now 22ft. below sole piece. No. 2 rise through to 870ft. level. 870ft. level: North drive in 296ft.; a good face of stone carrying good gold; south rise up 24ft. 660ft. level: North drive in 623ft., without change; rise up 64ft., lode disturbed. 720ft. level: North drive in 772ft., lode small. Crushed 813 tons, yield 405oz. 14dwt.

The Democrat Gold-mining Company, No Liability, Glen Wills, December 16.—South drive extended 9ft., total 428ft., nice-looking stone in face, but not payable at present. Stopes over this level carry a reef averaging 6in., all payable stone; Nos. 4 and 5 above the average in quality. The winze to meet the No. 3 has been sunk and timbered 6ft., total 18ft.; reef at 18ft. pinches to 3in., but was very rich; now opened out again to 7in., showing coarse gold; very little water. Stone at grass and at mill, 74 tons. Owing to continuous rain expect mill to catch up with us on Thursday, as the teams cannot work when we have to clean up. Contractors for first section, No. 3 level, completed, and were successful tenderers for second section, but did not start. Have called for fresh tenders, and in meantime have own men. Have done three days on wages, two shifts doing 8ft. in that time. By wire:—Cleaned up for 37oz. 17dwt. retorted gold from 71 tons, and saved 4 tons of concentrates. Mine looking well, and excellent stone showing in winze below No. 2 level.

The Broken Hill Proprietary Block 14 Company, Limited, week ending December 19.—Treated 172 tons carbonate ore and 330 tons sulphide, producing 190 tons bullion, containing 14,480oz. silver.

The United Brothers Gold-mining Company, No Liability, Glen Wills, December 16.—No. 1 level: No. 2 stope, north of No. 3 shaft, advanced 8ft.; lode 3ft., payable stone. No. 4 stope, north of No. 3 shaft, advanced 9ft.; lode 3ft., payable stone, containing a fair percentage of mineral. No. 3 stope, south of No. 3 shaft, advanced 10ft.; lode 20in. wide, payable stone. No. 5 stope, south of No. 3 shaft, advanced 12ft.; lode 18in., payable stone, containing a large percentage of mineral. No. 2 level: Drive north on lode advanced 6ft.; total, 199ft.; ground hard. Leading stope over north drive advanced 8ft.; lode 2ft., payable stone. No. 2 stope: North drive advanced 8ft.; lode 3ft., payable stone. No. 3 stope advanced 10ft.; lode 6ft., good stone, containing a large percentage of mineral. South drive advanced 12ft.; total, 131ft.; lode 2½ft., containing small veins of quartz all through. Leading stope over south drive advanced 9ft.; lode 3ft., payable stone. No. 2 stope advanced 7ft.; lode 2½ft., payable stone. Have delivered 175 tons of stone to battery for the past week.

Occidental Gold-mining Company, No Liability, fortnight ending December 19.—During the fortnight 300 tons have been put through the battery from the north cutting, and 68 tons from the south cutting. The winze in the south is down 6ft., and showing fair prospects of gold. One man and a boy are employed in sinking the winze. The south drive 200ft. level is in south from the east crosscut 11ft. 9in. There is about 1ft. in width of stone in the face. Could not get a colour of gold in the dish prospects, so thought it best to stop it until proved the width of stone on the gossan lode at this level. Expect the two miners in the north cutting will keep the 10-head going. We got 51oz. 2dwt. retorted gold.

Tumbarumba Flat Sluicing Company, No Liability, week ending December 21.—8in. pump worked 122 hours, and stripping nozzle 118 hours, raising 4500 cubic yards of stripping. We expect to finish stripping and get about 70 paddocks cleaned up in the course of the next three weeks.

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN
FOR THE
GREAT SHOW THIS CHRISTMAS
AT
THE STRAND MERCERY BAZAAR,
414 GEORGE-STREET.

A SPECIAL DISPLAY of GENTLEMAN'S REQUISITES—ALL HE REQUIRES

HATS of all kinds—Hard and Soft, Silk and Straws
SHIRTS of the Newest, White and Coloured, Cotton or Wool
HOSIERY, the Best Makes—HALF-HOSE, UNDERSHIRTS, and PANTS
SCARFS, the Latest Shapes and Designs
BOWS, New Shapes and Colourings
UMBRELLAS, Single one at Wholesale Price.
TENNIS SHIRTS, SUITS, and TENNIS COATS
CRICKETING SHIRTS, from 2s 9d each
WHITE LINEN and FELT HATS, from 1s 6d
STRAW HATS, from 9d each. New Shapes.

SEE OUR WINDOWS.
A GRAND DISPLAY.
OUR ONLY ADDRESS—
THE STRAND MERCERY BAZAAR,
GEORGE-STREET ENTRANCE.

ROBERTS' WINE AND SPIRIT STORE,
MARKET-STREET (NEXT GEORGE-STREET).
THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN SYDNEY.

HENNESSY'S 3-STAR (***) PALE BRANDY, 6s 3d per Bottle.
BROWN'S FOUR-CROWN WHISKY, 3s 9d.
THE CELEBRATED WOLFE'S SCHNAPPS, 4s and 2s.
WHYTE AND MACKAY'S SPECIAL WHISKY, 3s 9d.
GALLEY BRAND WHISKY, 3s 9d.
GILBEY'S SILVERSTREAM SCHNAPPS, 4s and 2s.
VERY SUPERIOR OLD PORT WINE FOR INVALIDS.
SPLENDID RUM FOR COUGHS AND COLDS.
ROBERTS' SPECIAL WHISKY FOR INFLUENZA.

ROBERTS'
SINGLE BOTTLE DEPARTMENT,
MARKET-STREET (NEXT GEORGE-STREET), IS THE BEST PLACE TO BUY WINES AND SPIRITS.

NOVELTIES FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
A LARGE STOCK OF SILVER AND ELECTROPLATE.
DOULTON AND COALPORT CHINA.
JEWELLERY OF ALL KINDS IN NEW AND CHOICE DESIGNS.
FLAVELLE AND ROBERTS, LTD., 340 GEORGE-STREET (ONLY).

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE.

BEECHAM'S PILLS.
BEECHAM'S PILLS.
BEECHAM'S PILLS. Worth a Guinea a Box.
BEECHAM'S PILLS. For Bilious Attacks.
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BEECHAM'S PILLS. For Wind and Pains in the Stomach.
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BEECHAM'S PILLS. For Liver Complaint.
BEECHAM'S PILLS. A Wonderful Medicine for Females of all Ages.
BEECHAM'S PILLS. Are Adapted for Old and Young.
BEECHAM'S PILLS. In Boxes 9½d, 1s 1½d, and 2s 9d each.

General Merchandise.

JEFFREY EDINBURGH ALE,
7s 6d per Dozen Quarts.
VERY OLD SCOTCH WHISKY,
8 years old, 40s per Case.
FINE OLD INVALID PORT,
Vintage 1877, 4s 6d per Bottle.
SPECIAL OLD JAMAICA RUM,
48s per Dozen.
These goods we strongly recommend for their PURITY and general EXCELLENCE.
J. G. HANKS and CO.,
448 GEORGE-STREET, SYDNEY.

"VD" CLARETS.
"KRUG CHAMPAGNE."
CURCIER, ADET, and CO., SYDNEY.

BISQUIT DUBOUCHE and CO.'S BRANDY, dark and pale, in hogsheads, quarter-casks, and cases. GARRICK and CO., Agents.

Horses and Vehicles.

FOR SALE, a Gentleman's VEHICLE, known as a private 'bus, can be used in wet or fine weather, made by Peters, of London. The appliances allow to be altered from 'bus to break, will seat eight inside and two out, is in perfect condition and nearly new. For full particulars apply Mr. T. R. DAVIS, Herald Office.

SORE BACKS CURED BY CONDY'S FLUID.—Horses suffering from sore shoulders, sore backs, broken knees, wounds, bruises, &c., cured in a few hours by bathing the parts affected with diluted Condy's Fluid. Use a tablespoonful to a pint of water. Caution.—Insist on having Condy's Fluid. Beware of imitations. Veterinary book with every bottle containing instructions for curing all Diseases of Horses, Sheep, Cattle, &c. Sold by all chemists. Manufactured only at Condy's Fluid Works, London, England.

TO COUNTRY VISITORS Coming to Sydney at Xmas.—Visit our Establishment, and they will see a Real First-class Selection of Vehicles and Harness, new and second-hand, at Dull-time Prices. We defy competition. Our Lord Hampden Champion 3-spring SULKY, horse or pony, varnished or painted; also best silver-plated Harness to match, English style, £15 15s. Lot delivered to train or steamer. We defy anyone in the city to compete at our price in this particular line. Send for illustration and particulars at once. Call on us. E. M'CARTY and CO., Horse and Buggy Bazaar, 150 Castlereagh-street, city.

J. M'NAMARA'S, 157 Castlereagh-st., for Phaetons, Buggies, Family Sociables, Sulkies, Dog, Village, Pony, Spring, and Butcher's Carts, Express Waggons, Harness, Saddlery, &c., at reduced prices. Inspection invited.

GOOD S.S. Hooded BUGGY for SALE, cheap. Warrane, Trafalgar-crescent, Stanmore.

Wanted to Purchase.

MR. and Mrs. BARNETT, Old-established Wardrobe Purchasers, still give Extreme Value for every description Ladies' and Gentlemen's Left-off Clothing, Portmanteaus, Old Gold, Silver, Artificial Teeth, and articles of every description bought. Letters punctually attended to by Mr. or Mrs. BARNETT, 124 Bathurst-st.

MR. and Miss MITCHELL, oldest-established Wardrobe Purchasers in the colony, still giving the extreme value for Ladies' and Gentlemen's and Children's Cast-off Clothing, Portmanteaus, Articles of every description Bought. Old Gold and Artificial Teeth Bought. Letters promptly attended. Goulburn and Elizabeth sts.

OLD Artificial Teeth, Old Artificial Teeth Bought, highest price given. B. Mitchell, Goul. and Eliz. sts.

OLD POSTAGE STAMPS COLLECTIONS and early AUSTRALIAN issues, Purchased. Highest prices paid. SMYTH and NICOLLE, Stamp Dealers, 11 Hunter-street.

MRS. SAYERS still continues give best Prices Left-off CLOTHING, Sundries. 108 Bathurst-st.

STAMPS.—Old Australians and Collections bought highest prices. Fred. Hagen, 74 Elizabeth-st.

TICKETS, rail or boat, wanted any part colonies, England, elsewhere. Davis, 108 Pitt-st., op. G.P.O.

TICKETS.—Melbourne, excursion, wanted; will give 20s; others bought, sold, exc. Firkins, 135 King-st.

WANTED to Purchase, Left-off CLOTHING. Letters attended. Mrs. Sorensen, 139 Bathurst-st.

WANTED, Secondhand SAFE, about 27in. Price and particulars to Safe, Herald Office.

WANTED, good Milking COW, must be young, calf at foot. Mrs. Gibson, George-st., Enfield.

WANTED, St. Bernard SLUT. State age and price, R. Armytage, Box 363, G.P.O.

WANTED, a second-hand Breaking-down LOG FRAME, four (4) feet, complete. J. A. CURTIS, Tattersall's-buildings, Hunter and Castlereagh streets.

CHRISTMAS NUMBER
of the
SYDNEY MAIL
NOW READY.
PRICE SIXPENCE.
A THOROUGHLY AUSTRALIAN PRODUCTION.
SPLENDID ENGRAVINGS.
MANY OF THE BEAUTY SPOTS OF SYDNEY AND THE COUNTRY ILLUSTRATED.
A PICNIC IN MIDDLE HARBOUR.
BLUE MOUNTAIN SCENERY.
SKETCHES OF THE CAMEL TRAFFIC IN AUSTRALIA.
A SKETCH OF CAREENING COVE.
A SETTLER'S HOME IN THE NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT.
A SETTLER'S HOME IN THE BATHURST DISTRICT.
A HOMESTEAD IN THE KANIMBLA VALLEY.
A NEW HEBRIDEAN SING SING GROUND
YACHTING IN SYDNEY HARBOUR.
DOUBLE BAY AND ELIZABETH BAY, SYDNEY HARBOUR.
CHARMING STORIES BY AUSTRALIAN AUTHORS,
BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED.
A Splendid
COLOURED SUPPLEMENT
is presented
TO EACH SUBSCRIBER.
A CAMEL TRAIN ON THE PAROO.

The design is by Mr. NORMAN HARDY, Principal of the Art Staff of the Sydney Mail, who paid special visits to the Far West to secure a faithful representation. The beautiful effects of New South Wales scenery are well brought out, the result being a most charming picture. The Lithographing was entrusted to Messrs. Turner and Henderson, Hunter-street, Sydney.

COUNTRY AGENTS who have not already ordered extra copies are specially advised to forward their orders at once. This is absolutely necessary to prevent disappointment.

SINGLE COPIES

will be posted to any country address for 6½d; intercolonial, 7d; and Great Britain and Europe, 10d. Payment may be made in stamps. Our agents for the different country districts are now receiving orders.

TURNER'S OLD METHUSELAH WHISKY. Connoisseurs will find Turner's OLD METHUSELAH Whisky very old and mellow. In jars, 28s per gallon. Bottled, 60s per dozen. TURNER and CO., 64 Sussex-street, Sydney.

Military Notices.

SECOND INFANTRY REGIMENT.
PAY, Band and Headquarter Companies, for month and quarter ending 31st December, 1895, will be issued at Victoria Barracks on FRIDAY Next, 27th instant, at 7.30 p.m. By order.
(Signed) J. G. LEGGE, Captain, Adjutant 2nd Infantry Regiment.

For Sale.

TICKETS issued by companies belonging to the S.S. Owners' Association are NOT TRANSFERABLE, and if improperly used will be confiscated and users prosecuted. A. B. COCKBURN, Secretary S. S. Owners' Association.

DIAMOND RINGS, Jewellery, and Watches in endless variety and value. We sell our own unredeemed pledges at one-third of original cost. Bargains not to be equalled. Don't miss this chance. Come early. AUSTRALIAN MONT DE PIETE, 21 Regent-street, corner James-street, Redfern.

TO COUNTRY NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS and JOB PRINTERS.—For SALE, cheap, a quantity of Second-hand TYPE—Minion and Nonpareil—(in good condition), in case. Apply to W. SEMPLE, S. M. Herald Office.

DIAMOND Cluster RING, pledged Mont de P., ticket for Sale, cheap, urgent. H. Cox, P.O., Ultimo.

SECONDHAND 1½in. PIPING. Price and full particulars, Box 886, G.P.O.

MILNER'S Iron SAFE, cost £15, sell £6; Revolving Office Desk, cost £10, sell £5. Symonds, 77 Oxford-st.

TICKETS.—Excursion, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Maryborough, Hobart, Albury, Bourke, Goulburn, Tenterfield, New Zealand; London (steerage), £15; others, all parts, cheap. DAVIS, 108 Pitt-street, op. G.P.O.

TICKETS.—Melbourne, Brisbane, 8s; Launceston, 20s; Hobart, 25s; Maryborough, Fremantle, Glen Innes, Bourke; London, £15; Wagga, Goulburn, Tenterfield, Armidale, Toowoomba. FIRKINS, 135 King-street.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL IS NOW READY. Christmas Stories, Beautiful Illustrations, and Magnificent Coloured Supplement. PRICE 6d. Order of all News Agents, or direct Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

Funerals.

THE FRIENDS of Mr. DANIEL HEFFERNAN are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his deceased beloved youngest DAUGHTER, Mary Ellen; to move from his residence, High-street, North Botany, THIS DAY, at 1 o'clock, for R. C., Necropolis. THOS. DIXON, Undertaker, 23 Oxford-street, city.

THE FRIENDS of Messrs. GEORGE, ALBERT, and CHARLES PRICE are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their deceased beloved MOTHER, Mary Price; to move from her late residence, 392 Kent-street, THIS (Wednesday) AFTERNOON, 1.30, for the Necropolis. R. W. THOMAS, Undertaker, 44 York-street.

THE FRIENDS of RICHARD EPHRAIM are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of his dearly-beloved FRIEND, Mrs. M. Price; to move from her late residence, 392 Kent-street, THIS (Wednesday) AFTERNOON, at 2 o'clock, for Rookwood Cemetery.

THE FRIENDS of the late MARGARET PITTS are respectfully invited to attend her Funeral; to move from her late residence, East-street, Five Dock, THIS (Wednesday) AFTERNOON, at quarter to 2 o'clock, for Croydon station, thence Necropolis.
J. BRAUER, Undertaker, Summer Hill.

MATHER.—The RELATIVES and FRIENDS of the late Mr. JOSEPH MATHER are kindly invited to attend his Funeral, which will move from his late residence, IVYLEA, John-street, Marrickville, THIS (Wednesday) AFTERNOON, at 2 o'clock punctually, for Petersham Station, and thence to Rookwood Cemetery.
WOOD and COMPANY, Undertakers and Embalmers, Sydney, Balmain, Petersham, and St. Leonards.

HOWLETT.—The FRIENDS of EDWIN and MARY ANN HOWLETT are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their late beloved SON, John Henry; to move from his late residence, 540 Bourke-street, Surry Hills, for Rookwood, at quarter to 2 o'clock.

PIDGEON.—The FRIENDS of Mr. WILLIAM PIDGEON, Sen., are respectfully requested to attend the Funeral of his late beloved WIFE, Louisa; to move from his residence, 4 Abbington-terrace, Denison-street, Waverley, THIS (Christmas) DAY, at 3 o'clock, to Waverley Cemetery. CHAS. KINSELA and COMPANY, Funeral Furnishers, Waverley, Oxford-street, and Darlinghurst. Telephone, 992.

NATIONAL DIVISION SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF TEMPERANCE.—The Members of the Executive Council, together with the Officers and Members of the various Divisions, are requested to attend the Funeral of the WIFE of the Most Worthy Sentinel, Bro. William Pidgeon; to move from his residence, 4 Denison-street, Waverley, THIS (Wednesday) AFTERNOON, at 3 o'clock, for the Waverley Cemetery.
H. EVERS, M.W.P.
R. B. CROPLEY, M.W.S.

WOOD and COMPANY, Funeral Directors and Embalmers, 157 King-street and 799 George-street, Sydney. Branches at Balmain (N. and S.), Petersham, North Sydney, Leichhardt, and Pyrmont. Telephones 632 and 726, &c., &c.

HENRY HART and SONS, Undertakers and Embalmers, 186 Devonshire-st., Surry Hills, Sydney, and at Ashfield and Burwood, at railway stations. Telephone, city, No. 1003; Ashfield, No. 6.

FOR HEADSTONE, Monument, Kerbing, or Inscription, please write to Edwin Andrews, Rookwood.

Auction Sales.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27,
at 11 a.m.

IMPORTANT AUCTIONEERS' ANNOUNCEMENT
to
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
Furnishing in good taste,
VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY,
and the General Public.

GREAT UNRESERVED SALE BY AUCTION,
at the
OLD BANK AUCTION ROOMS,
322 GEORGE-STREET,
between G.P.O. and Hunter-street,
of the
CONTENTS of SEVERAL WELL-FURNISHED SUBURBAN and CITY RESIDENCES,
for
ABSOLUTE UNRESERVED SALE,
to close up
THE OLD YEAR'S ACCOUNTS,
and to
ENABLE VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY
to replenish their homes.
Amongst these
GRAND HOUSEHOLD APPOINTMENTS
will be found
LARGE and HANDSOME ENGLISH CHINA DINNER SERVICE,
BREAKFAST, TEA, and COFFEE SETS,
Elegant Dessert Sets,
SUPERIOR SHEFFIELD ELECTROPLATE,
in splendid order,
BEST QUALITY BRUSSELS CARPETS
and Hearth Rugs.
SEVERAL VALUABLE OIL and WATER-COLOUR PAINTINGS, of great merit
EBONISED COTTAGE UPRIGHT PIANOFORTE, in first-class order, by the well-known English makers, John Brinsmead and Sons
ELEGANT and MOST ARTISTIC DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE, in various designs, and upholstered in best quality Silk and Plush
HIGH-ART SOLID WALNUT CHIPPENDALE CABINET, with enclosed cupboard and bevelled plate-glass
SOLID CARVED WALNUT ARTISTIC OVERMANTELS, of various sizes, and with bevelled plates
MAGNIFICENT ASSORTMENT of DINING-ROOM and Library FURNITURE, in Oak and Walnut
HANDSOME CARVED WALNUT ENCLOSED SIDEBOARDS, running from 4ft. to 6ft., of the very latest style, with bevelled plate-glass backs
EXTENSION DINING TABLES, PATENT SCREWS and extra leaves
SEVERAL WELL-MADE DINING-ROOM SUITES, buttoned and plain seated, covered in best Morocco and Roanskins
ENCLOSED EARLY ENGLISH DINNER WAGGONS, with bevelled plates
WALNUT and OAK HALL STANDS, with Chairs to match
BEDROOM FURNITURE, in GREAT VARIETY, consisting of Ash, Walnut, and Pine; Single and Double Bedroom Suites
BEST QUALITY BRASS-MOUNTED BEDSTEADS and Bedding complete
COMFORTABLE EUGENE BEDROOM LOUNGES, covered in figured Cretonne
SINGLE GENTLEMAN'S WARDROBES, in Ash, Walnut, and Pine
PAIRS of WELL-MADE TOILETS
Double and Single China Toilet Sets
SUPERIOR BEDROOM CARPET SQUARES, of various sizes and patterns
ENCLOSED CEDAR and WALNUT BOOKCASES
Writing Desks and Pigeonholes
CHOICE ASSORTMENT SITTING-ROOM FURNITURE of the most artistic designs in Fumigated Bamboo and Bleached Cane, plush seats
SEVERAL SWEET-TONED COTTAGE PIANOFORTES, in good order, suitable for the country
GAS STOVES and PATENT MANGLES
Garden Seats and Lawn Mowers,
and a
LARGE and VARIED ASSORTMENT
of
EXCELLENT HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS,
too numerous to particularise.

WALTER BRADLEY and CO. beg to inform ladies and gentlemen furnishing, visitors from the country, that they will conduct the above most important unreserved sale by auction, at
THE OLD BANK AUCTION ROOMS,
322 GEORGE-STREET,
on
FRIDAY, 27th DECEMBER,
at 11 a.m.
TERMS, CASH.

Purchasers can rely on their goods being packed and despatched in a competent manner, and at a moderate charge.

Bankrupt Estate of A. Hinchcliffe, Son, and Co.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, at 11 a.m.
On the premises, No. 4 Young-street, Circular Quay.

By order of W. H. Palmer, Esq., Official Assignee.

POSTING DESKS, SHELVING
CEDAR and PEDESTAL WRITING TABLES
STATIONERY CUPBOARDS, Bill Files, Cabinets, Scales
DOUBLE and SINGLE IRON SAFES
REVOLVING OFFICE CHAIRS
OILCLOTH, CARPET, ENCLOSED WASHSTAND
3 LARGE AVERY'S WEIGHING MACHINES
ENCLOSED WOOL SAMPLE CASE
LARGE QUANTITY of WOOL SAMPLES
GAS ENGINE, with "Otto" patent, by Crossley Bros., with Pulleys, Shafting, Belting, Wire Ropes, Chains
2 GALVANISED IRON TANKS.
C. F. W. LLOYD and CO. will sell by auction, on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, at 11 a.m., the above. Without Reserve. Terms, Cash.
Offices, 267 George-street.

MORTGAGEES'
CLEARANCE SALE OF
MOUNTAIN PROPERTY,
KATOOMBA and BLACKHEATH,
on
SATURDAY NEXT, DECEMBER 28, at 3 p.m.,
at KATOOMBA.

WATKIN and WATKIN (in conjunction with Goyder Bros., of Katoomba) will offer by auction, on vacant land, Bathurst-road and Katoomba-street, opposite Katoomba Station, on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 p.m.,
A LIST OF PROPERTIES, comprising 16 lots, including BALMORAL HOUSE, Katoomba, and choice Allotments in Katoomba, Lurline, Peale, and other streets.
BLACKHEATH PROPERTIES, Mitchell-street, and Prince Edward-street.

TERMS:

HOUSE PROPERTY,	VACANT LAND,
25 per cent. deposit, balance 12 equal quarterly instalments, int. 5 per cent.	10 per cent. deposit, balance by 36 equal monthly instalments, int. 5 per cent.

TITLES, TORRENS.
PRINTED CATALOGUES WITH ALL INFORMATION ON APPLICATION TO WATKIN AND WATKIN, 313 PITT-STREET, or GOYDER BROTHERS, THE CARRINGTON, KATOOMBA.

FIFTEEN SHILLINGS per foot is the upset price of the HAMPDEN ESTATE, Croydon, adjoining the Western Suburbs Cottage Hospital. Sale next SATURDAY. ERNEST BROUGHTON, 250 Pitt-street, Auct.

WILSON-STREET, NEWTOWN.

Cottage and Allotments at corner of Queen-street.
TO BUILDERS AND OTHERS.
Lot 1. Land 45ft. WILSON-STREET, depth 120½ft. along Queen-street. On it is a cottage of brick, 7 apartments, &c. Could be repaired and made serviceable.
Lot 2 to 4 are 3 Allotments WILSON-STREET, each 18ft. x 120ft. A populous, convenient district. Houses built here would pay well.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH, Limited, will sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on FRIDAY, 17th January, at 11 o'clock.
Messrs. Holdsworth and Son are Solicitors for the Vendor. (1205)

GORDON. GORDON.

BROWN'S well-known former Orchard,
LANE COVE-ROAD and STONEY CREEK-ROAD.

Positive SALE, as it must be Realised to Close Trust. Judiciously subdivided into Villa Areas from ONE ACRE each, and really occupying a delightful situation with pleasing outlook.
LITHOGRAPHS PREPARING.
AUCTION SALE on the GROUND,
SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1896.
(1280) RICHARDSON and WRENCH, Limited.

AUCTIONEERS' NOTICE.
HARDIE and GORMAN'S SALES for 1896 will commence early in January. Vendors wishing to have their Properties advertised during the Xmas and New Year Holidays should send in particulars early either for Sale
ON THE GROUND
or in
THE AUCTION ROOMS.

AFTERNOON EXCURSIONS.—S.S. NAMOI, 1414 tons, to HAWKESBURY RIVER, SATURDAY, from Market-street Wharf, at 2 o'clock. Return Fare, 2s.

"A XMAS GREETING"

WITH ALL GOOD CHRISTMAS WISHES.

FROM
"E. WAY AND COMPANY,"
TO
"OUR PATRONS
AND THE
GENERAL PUBLIC."

Amusements.
(Continued from Page 2.)

ORGAN RECITAL
TOWN HALL.
TO-NIGHT at 8 TO-NIGHT.
SPECIAL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
"THE STORM," Idylle No. 1.
"Maritana," "La Traviata," "Stabat Mater," "Don Giovanni," "Allelujah Chorus."
ADMISSION, 6d and 1s.

BONDI AQUARIUM
BONDI AQUARIUM.
BOXING DAY.
BOXING DAY.
The great centre of fun and fancy on the holiday.
The hundreds and thousands wend their way to Bondi Aquarium on Boxing Day.
The BRITANNIA BRASS BAND.
DANCING, DANCING, DANCING in the Great Hall from morn till dewy eve and far into the night.
ENORMOUS VARIETY ENTERTAINMENTS
by
20 celebrated performers at 2 o'clock and at 7 o'clock.
Screaming Farces, Bonny Lasses, Side-splitting Jokes.
Deeds of Daring and Desperation by Professor LEO, the Renowned Ropewalker.
BOXING, BOXING, BOXING by Professor BRUEN and the
GREAT BOXING KANGAROO.
Merry-Go-Round, Skates, Swings, See-Saws, and every conceivable kind of Fun and Pleasure all through the day.
BONDI AQUARIUM
BONDI AQUARIUM
BONDI AQUARIUM.
BOXING DAY
BOXING DAY
BOXING DAY.
Admission, 1s; Children, 6d. Open from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Refreshments at city prices.

TO-NIGHT, LEIGH HOUSE,
HUGHES and SMITHERS,
GRAND XMAS SOCIAL EVENING.
Note.—Boxing NIGHT, I.O.G.T. Temple.

GRAND HOLIDAY SOCIAL, LEIGH HOUSE, BOXING NIGHT, 8 to 12. BOXING NIGHT. Boxall's Band. Refreshments. Select Company. DOUBLE TICKETS, 2s 6d. A most enjoyable dance.

MIDDLE HARBOUR.
BOXING DAY.
SYDNEY CITY MISSION PICNIC
to
PEARL BAY,
the Gem of Harbour Resorts.
The steamers WATERVIEW, ME MEL, HAWKESBURY, and KINGSLEY will leave
FLOATING JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY,
at intervals from 9 a.m.
Brass Band and United Mission Choir.
Mass Meeting on the grounds at 2.30, when Messrs. J. S. M'Gowen, F. E. M'Lean, D. Storey, Ms.L.A., &c., will speak.
Special provision for children's amusement.
Hot and cold water free. Refreshments at Sydney prices.
RATIONAL ENJOYMENT, PICTURESQUE SCENERY,
AND A WORTHY CAUSE ASSISTED.
Tickets: Adults, One Shilling; Children, Sixpence.
E. MOORE, Gen. Sec.
Office—329 Pitt-street.

IRISH NATIONAL FORESTERS.
MEMBERS OF THE
CITY and SUBURBAN BRANCHES
of the
ABOVE SOCIETY
ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE
at MARTIN-PLACE at 9 o'clock a.m. THURSDAY,
to take part in the
FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' DEMONSTRATION.
J. SHEERY,
Gen. Sec.

FERN BAY, FERN BAY.
BOXING DAY. BOXING DAY.
THE PRETTIEST SPOT NEAR SYDNEY.
Undoubtedly the most POPULAR, most SELECT, and best conducted pleasure resort in the colonies.
NEW PAVILIONS, TEAROOMS, &c.
DANCING, DANCING,
all Day and Evening till 10.30,
in the Spacious and well-ventilated Pavilion.
Accommodation for thousands.
LANE'S STRING BAND
delightful to dance to.
AMUSEMENTS OF ALL KINDS FOR YOUNG AND OLD.
Merry-go-round, Donkey Rides, Swings, &c., Free.
Bush and Summer Houses for Family Parties.
Fern, and Wild Flowers in abundance.
Hot and Cold Water Free.
Parents, bring your children.
NO OVERCROWDING.
LUNCHEON, AFTERNOON TEA,
and other Refreshments. City prices.
SPECIAL DIRECT STEAMERS
from foot King-street (cable tram to wharf)
every half-hour. No waiting.
All Saloon Steamers.
ADMISSION—Steamer, Grounds, Pavilion, &c., 2s. Children free to Grounds. Visitors to Sydney should not fail to see these Charming and Picturesque Grounds.
The rowdy element positively excluded;
this is personally attended to.
NOTE—Open wet or fine.
LANE BROS.

CORREY'S GARDENS, CABARITA.
BOXING DAY. BOXING DAY.
The Premier Pleasure Grounds of Australia.
Every comfort and convenience for pleasure seekers. Shady nooks and summer-houses for family picnics. Extensive flower gardens and well-kept grounds are now at their best.
DANCING DANCING DANCING
in the Largest and Best-ventilated Pavilion in the colonies. Dancing space for thousands, room for all, no crowding. Floor in splendid order. Young Australian Band. Efficient Ms.C. Good order and respectability may be relied on. Amusements for all, merry-go-round, swings, &c., free. Hot and cold water free. Luncheons and Refreshments as usual. Steamers will leave King-street Wharf every half-hour throughout the day from 10 o'clock. Favourite Pheasant, with band, 10.30.
NOTE THE CHARGE. STEAMER, GROUNDS, and PAVILION, 2s.
'Buses from Burwood Station for the Gardens.
Picnic parties driving will find the trip by road to Cabarita one of the most picturesque out of Sydney. Good stabling. Telephone, 26 Burwood.
T. CORREY, Proprietor.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1895-6.
POPULAR EXCURSIONS
to
HAWKESBURY RIVER and PORT HACKING,
Weather permitting.
From Wharf, foot of Market-street, at 10 a.m. sharp.
BOXING DAY, THURSDAY, 26th December.
S.S. NAMOI, 1414 tons, to CAREEL BAY.
S.S. MAITLAND, 880 tons, to NEWPORT.
S.S. SYDNEY, 634 tons, to PORT HACKING.
NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1st January, 1896.
S.S. NEWCASTLE, 1251 tons, to COWAN BAY.
S.S. MAITLAND, 880 tons, to CAREEL BAY.
S.S. SYDNEY, 634 tons, to PORT HACKING.
Excursionists landed for about 3 hours, arriving in Sydney on return about 6 p.m.
LUNCHEON, 1s 6d (provided by the Company).
Refreshments at Moderate Rates.
BAND ENGAGED FOR EACH STEAMER.
RETURN FARES 3s.
Children Half-price.
F. J. THOMAS, Manager.
The Newcastle and H.R.S.S. Co., Ltd., 147 Sussex-street.

Businesses for Sale.

GENERAL STORE for SALE as a going concern. The business is the leading one in a thriving township in the Southern districts. The Stock, value about £6000, is clean and well assorted. This is an opening worthy of the attention of buyers seeking a sound and profitable business.
KENT and BRIERLEY,
Public Accountants,
102, 104, and 106 The Strand, Sydney.

STATIONERY and Fancy and Tobac., also H'dressing Bus. for Sale, leaving for W.A. 475 King-st., N'town.

FIRST-CLASS Butcher's Bus., 5 horses and van trade owner leaving coly. G. Tubby, Rocky Pt.-rd., Rockdale.

FOR SALE, Cash Grocery Business, no goodwill; stock optional or at valuat. 734 Geo.-st., Haymarket.

Business Announcements.

A. M.P. LIFE OFFICE.—Insure this month and secure 1895 Bonus. J. B. Youdale, agent, 108 Pitt-st.

DYASON BROS. and JOHNSON, Jam Manufacturers Young-st., Annandale. Telephone No. 39, Petersham.

Meetings.

A. H. C. GUILD.
A General MEETING of Members of the Branches affiliated with the Medical Institute will be held on SUNDAY, 29th instant, at 3 p.m., in the Guild Hall, to Elect Two Medical Officers by ballot.
THOS. LARKIN,
Warden-General.

THE CHRISTMAS SYDNEY MAIL
is now ready.
Christmas Stories, beautiful Illustrations, and magnificent Coloured Supplement.
Price, 6d. Order of all news agents, or direct, Head Office, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

Educational.

ABBOTSFORD, Boys' School, N. Kingston, Newtown.—A thorough and successful system of education. Principals—The Misses THOMPSON. Vacancies for two Boarders.

ARGYLE SCHOOL, ALBION-STREET, S.H. Conducted by Miss E. C. BAXTER. FAIRFAX PRIZES WON at the UNIVERSITY in 1876, 1877, 1880, 1880, 1881, 1883, 1884, 1886, 1889, 1895. DAY and RESIDENT PUPILS. NEW TERM JANUARY 20.

BISHOPSCOURT, RANDWICK.
S. NICOLAS COLLEGE.
Exigui numero doctrinae perstudiosi.
Principal:
The Rev. JOSEPH CAMPBELL, M.A., F.G.S., F.C.S.
A first grade Private School with all the adjuncts of an English Public School, Laboratory, Chapel, &c., standing in extensive grounds, in the healthiest and most delightful part of Randwick. Next term begins 29th January.
Prospectus on application to the Principal.

BOWRAL BRAHAN BANK.
A High-class Boarding and Day School for Boys.
All the usual subjects of a liberal education. Specially healthy climate, home comforts, highest references. Very moderate terms to suit the times. Candidates prepared for Univ. Exams. Special attention to backward boys. Carpentry taught if desired in shop attached. Principal, R. S. MACKENZIE, experienced Certif. Master, assisted by Mr. H. L. THIRTLE, Lond. Univ. Work resumed January 29th.

COLLEGE FOR YOUNG LADIES. THE CEDARS, Western-road, Parramatta. Conducted by Miss GULLY, late of Potts Point. STUDIES commence 13th JANUARY.

COOERWULL ACADEMY, Bowenfels.
Next Quarter commences January 28th, 1896.
Inclusive Boarding Fee, 15 guineas.
C. A. FLINT, M.A., Rector.

CAMPBELLTOWN GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.
THE SANATORIUM OF THE SOUTH.
Head Master, H. OLIVER (Prizeman, and formerly Principal of Bus. College).
Superior general education and THOROUGH COMMERCIAL TRAINING, including Shorthand and Typewriting. Preparation for all University Exams. a speciality. Special attention paid to backward boys. HOME COMFORTS. Success in Exams. practically assured. Number of boarders limited. WORK RESUMED 29th JAN.
Grand climate for delicate boys. Individual Tuition.

EDUCATION COMBINED WITH HEALTH. WINDSOR GRAMMAR SCHOOL offers, at a moderate expense, a liberal education to sons of gentlemen preparing for the learned professions or commercial pursuits. Day Boys not admitted. The little boys are kept entirely separate. Extensive grounds (20 acres). A few vacancies. Next Term begins 22nd January, 1896. Apply Rev. B. KEENAN, Headmaster.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL, WINDSOR.—Mr. KEENAN will be at the Royal Hotel, George-street, Sydney, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 8th, 9th, and 10th January, 1896, from 2 to 6, to receive parents and guardians of intending pupils. Early application requested. A few vacancies boarders only.

HARTLANDS, Springwood, Blue Mountains.—Sup. Boarding School for Girls. Miss Hooper has vacan.

MISS PEDLEY purposes returning from Europe to resume her profession in April next. During her absence Mrs. Henry Prince prepares pupils for her. 27 Upper Wm.-st. S.

NEWINGTON COLLEGE, Stanmore, Sydney.
President: Rev. J. E. MOULTON.
Headmaster: A. H. S. LUCAS, M.A. (Oxon.), B.Sc. (Lond.).
The College comprises—
1. Classical and Professional School.
2. Modern and Commercial School; Bookkeeping and Shorthand without any extra charge.
3. Preparatory School for Young Boys.
Large Swimming Bath, with Instructor
Gymnasium, Carpentry
Turf Cricket Oval, Tennis.
At the University Examinations the Medals for English in the Junior and the Senior, 1895, were won by Newington Pupils; also the Medals in Geometry, Trigonometry, and Chemistry; and Proximes in French and Ancient History in the Senior, 1895, and the Medals in Latin and Greek in the Junior, 1894.
Four Scholarships awarded annually—The Schofield, £50; and three Wigram Allen, 16 guineas each.
Fees: Boarders, from 12 guineas; Day Pupils, from 2¼ guineas.
NEXT TERM BEGINS JANUARY 29, 1896.

ROTHESAY SCHOOL, Carlton, near Kogarah.—The Principal, Mrs. WILSON, will be at home 2nd and 3rd Wednesday in January. Vacancies for two Boarders. New term January 21.

RIVIERE COLLEGE, Nelson-street, Woollahra.
Principal—Miss MEARES, M.A., widely known as a popular and successful tutor of University Classes.
The College stands in extensive grounds. The schoolhouse, class-rooms, and dormitories are large and well furnished. The pupils are professionally prepared for the University and for artistic and commercial careers. Kindergarten for little children. Library, gymnasium, tennis. Prospectus and woodcut of college on application.

SYDNEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, NORTH SYDNEY.
NEXT QUARTER BEGINS THURSDAY, JAN. 30th.
New Boys should be present at 9.30 a.m.
Prospectus upon application to the Head Master.
ERNEST I. ROBSON.

SYDNEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,
65 Victoria-street North.
Founded by ordinance of Synod.
Under the management of the Most Reverend the Primate and a council elected by Synod.
Principal, Miss BADHAM.
The school is open both to boarders and day pupils.
In the ordinary course are included Latin, Greek, French, German, and Italian.
Next quarter commences on Monday, 3rd February.
The Principal will be at the school on each Friday in January to meet parents of intending pupils.

TENNYSON, MOSS VALE. High-class Boarding and Day School for Girls. Principal, Miss ROSS (late of Kingsley College, Burwood). Classes commence January 27th, 1896.

THE KING'S SCHOOL, PARRAMATTA. Established 1832.
For information as to Scholarships tenable in the School, and at English and Sydney Universities, and for terms, apply to
Rev. A. H. CHAMPION, M.A., Head Master.

THE SCHOOL, MOUNT VICTORIA.
Over Fifty Pupils have Passed University Exams.
NEW QUARTER 13th JANUARY, 1896.
Terms, £11 11s per quarter. Circulars on application.
H. G. RIENITS, Principal.
Mr. RIENITS will be at Mr. Thompson's Book Shop, 38 Erskine-street, Sydney, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 8th, 9th, and 10th January, 1896, from 2 to 5 p.m., to receive Pupils and make any necessary arrangements with parents. Letters addressed to The School will be promptly attended to.

Musical Instruments.

W. H. PALING and CO., Ltd.
Established 1853.
THE LEADING PIANO AND MUSIC WAREHOUSE,
338 George-street, Sydney.
All the Best Makers. Lowest Prices.
Cash or Time Payment.

ONE HUNDRED PIANOS and Organs, half-price. Cash or terms. Howard's, Queen-st., Woollahra.

PIANOS, £6 10s, £8 10s, £11, £16, £20, £22, cheapest in Syd. Fletcher, 105 Geo.-st. W., next St. Benedict's Ch.

PIANOS.—Bartholl, Boesner, Erard, Richter, cheap. Symonds, 77 Castlereagh-st., near King-st.

PIANOS, Pianos, must be cleared; no reasonable offer refused. All prices. Powell, 57 Flinders-st.

PIANOS, all makers, 2s 6d deposit, club system, balance to five years. 78 George-st. West.

Medical, Chemicals, &c.

W. MENTIPLAY and SON, 566½ George-street, Brickfield-hill, near Bathurst-street, have reliable preparations for all diseases of adults or children, no matter what the complaint may be. We remove hydatids without operation; cure erisypelas in 24 hours; remove all kinds of worms; cure ringworms in one minute; barber's itch, eczema, liver and kidney complaints, Bright's disease, inflammation of the bladder; cure nervous debility of male or female; cleanse the blood of all objectionable matter; cure marasmus, coughs, colds, bronchitis, sciatica, old sores, bad legs, neuralgia, and all other chronic diseases after all other treatment fails. Our Hair Restorer is the only real restorer ever offered.

LEAVES NO SCAR. THE PAIN of BURNS, SUNBURNS, SCALDS, WOUNDS, and SORES is stopped by one application of JOSEPHSON'S AUSTRALIAN OINTMENT.
A Perfect Cure for Piles.
You can't afford to be without
JOSEPHSON'S AUSTRALIAN OINTMENT.
Sole Proprietors;
EDWD. ROW and COMPANY.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated publicly in court that Dr. J. Collis Browne was undoubtedly the inventor of Chlorodyne, that the whole story of the defendant Freeman was deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say it had been sworn to.—Times, July 13, 1864.

Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
"is prescribed by scores of orthodox practitioners. Of course it would not be thus singularly popular did it not 'supply a want and fill a place.'"—Medical Times, January 13, 1885.

Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
is the best and most certain remedy in coughs, colds, asthma, consumption, neuralgia, rheumatism, &c.

Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE
a certain cure for cholera, dysentery, diarrhoea, colic, &c.

Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.
Caution: None genuine without the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne" on the Government stamp. Overwhelming medical testimony accompanies each bottle. Sole manufacturer, J. T. Davenport, 33 Great Russell-street, London. Sold at 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, 4s 6d, 11s. Agents, Sydney, ELLIOTT BROTHERS.

ONE TON GARFIELD TEA for SICK HEADACHE and LIVER Sold Weekly. Try it. All CHEMISTS.

FOR SALE, a patent OINTMENT; all rights and title to be sold cheap. Apply
T. R. F., 38 Harrington-street,
Circular Quay.

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IS NOW READY.
CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT
COLOURED SUPPLEMENT.
PRICE, 6d. Order of all NEWS AGENTS, or direct HEAD OFFICE, Pitt, Hunter, and O'Connell streets.

Stock, Shares, and Money.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF WILCANNIA.
TENDERS FOR LOAN OF £1000.
SEALED TENDERS will be received up to 12 o'clock noon on MONDAY, the 6th January, 1896, for a Loan of £1000 to the abovenamed Municipal District, for the purpose of Building Council-chambers at Wilcannia. Repayment of principal in one sum at the expiration of Ten years, or by instalments of £75 per annum until debt is extinguished, at option of lender. Rate of interest not to exceed 5 per cent. per annum, which will be paid half-yearly, on the 1st April and 1st October in each year.
Full particulars can be obtained from the undersigned.
W. F. STANBURY,
Council Clerk.
Council-chambers, Wilcannia,
13th December, 1895.

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.
Ample Funds Available for Borrowers.
Reduced Interest on Special Securities.
Advances on Buildings in course of Erection.
Easy Repayments.
Mortgages may be paid off at any time.
WILLIAM JARRETT, Manager,
145 York-street.

MONEY TO LEND.
N.S.W. MONT DE PIETE D. and I. CO., Limited,
74 Castlereagh-street, Sydney,
next St. James' School,
between King and Market streets.
This Company Advances MONEY on all kinds of security, including Watches, Jewellery, Precious Stones, Plated Ware, Cutlery, Furniture (without possession), and its rates of interest are much LOWER than those of any other office.
BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Weekly or Monthly Payments accepted.
PLEDGES transferred from other Pawnbrokers.
This Company has only one office, and is not connected with any other calling "themselves" MONT DE PIETE.
Address all communications to
LEWIS LEVY,
Manager.

LONDON and AUSTRALASIAN DEBENTURE CORPORATION, Limited.
Authorised capital ... £1,000,000
Subscribed capital ... 500,000
This Company is prepared to make ADVANCES upon Freehold Securities, or to conduct in London the flotation of Debentures, municipal or otherwise, upon reasonable terms.
Applications must be sent to the undersigned, Attorneys of the Company,
JOHNSON, MINTER, SIMPSON, and CO.,
Norwich-chambers,
Hunter-street, Sydney.

AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY.
LOANS ON MORTGAGE
of
FREEHOLD OR LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES,
for a
FIXED TERM OF YEARS OR REDEEMABLE BY INSTALMENTS.
RICHARD TEECE, General Manager.
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Head Office: 87 Pitt-street, Sydney.

I NEVER REFUSE
AN ADVANCE OF MONEY to any responsible person. Any business transacted guaranteed strictly private.
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Telephone, 1778. Established 20 years.

THE ADVERTISER, having a considerable Capital at his disposal, is prepared to make immediate CASH ADVANCES at an extremely LOW RATE OF INTEREST on all descriptions of securities without the necessity of Bill of Sale, or any publicity whatever.
Loans may be repaid as under:—
Loan of £100, repayable by monthly instalments of £5 5s
Loan of £50, repayable by monthly instalments of £1 10s
Loan of £25, repayable by monthly instalments of £1
Loan of £10, repayable by monthly instalments of 10s.
Also, £20,000 Trust Funds at LOWEST CURRENT RATES on City or Country Properties, for 3 or 5 years.
All communications strictly private.
Confidence, Box 293, General Post Office.

MONEY LENT WITHOUT FEES OF ANY DESCRIPTION.
IN A FEW HOURS Advances can be made to any respectable person upon Household Furniture, Pianos, Horses and Vehicles (without pos.), or any tangible security.
I am the ACTUAL LENDER, employ no Agents, and I TRADE in my OWN NAME. Existing Loans paid off, and repayments to suit borrower's convenience.
J. PHILLIPS, 118, 120 Market-street, city.

MONEY.—A PRIVATE LENDER will make immediate ADVANCES from £10 upwards to anyone requiring a strictly private Loan. Do not be allured by PUFF advertisements. As I advance my own MONEY, can do so at a LOW rate of interest and easy terms of repayment. Positively no fees or fines charged. Apply in confidence to S. F. PERKINS, Box 344, G.P.O.

NO LOAN OFFICE.
A PRIVATE GENTLEMAN is prepared to LEND MONEY on Furniture (without possession) or any security. Apply any evening to
36 PITT-STREET, REDFERN,
between Cleveland and Redfern streets.

MONEY Advanced at current rates by National Mutual Life Association, First Mortgage City and Suburban Freeholds. Loan may be for a fixed term, or repayable by instalments, including principal and interest. Loans granted on personal security, combined with Life Assurance. Terms and conditions may be learnt on application. H. C. EVANS, Resident Secretary. Offices: 85 Pitt-street (corner of Bond-street).

BORROWERS, CONSULT YOUR INTERESTS by applying to an old and respectable establishment, where a loan will be granted on the easiest terms.
NO REASONABLE APPLICATION REFUSED.
ORIGINAL MONT DE PIETE CO., Ld.,
71 CASTLEREAGH-STREET. Established 1854.

YOUR MONEY DIFFICULTIES can be at once overcome by applying personally, or by letter, to LEMON and CO., 46 Elizabeth-street, between King and Hunter streets, who are the actual lenders. No bills of sale, publicity, fees, or delay. Advances on furniture, &c., without possession.

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on APPROVED FREEHOLD PROPERTY,
City and Suburban.
Also First-class Dairy Farms and Large Freehold Country Estates.
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MONEY ADVANCED on FURNITURE, DEEDS, INTEREST UNDER WILLS, or any Tangible Security. CHARGES FOR INTEREST CONSIDERABLY REDUCED. Easy Repayments. All BUSINESS ARRANGED on SHORTEST NOTICE, and STRICTLY confidential. REXON, 52 Elizabeth-st., n. Hunter-st., city.

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TO ASSIST, Not to Crush.—Private Gent. Advances MONEY on Furniture or any security (without pos.). No fees or loan office routine. Evenings, 6.30 till 9. 398 Bourke-street, Surry Hills, near Oxford-street.

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REFRIGERATING AND ICE-MAKING MACHINES.
J. and E. HALL'S
Patent Carbonic Anhydride Refrigerators for Chilling, Freezing, and Storing Meat, Butter, Fish, Game, &c.
Adopted by THE VICTORIAN, SOUTH AUSTRALIAN, and QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENTS.
Also by the British and German Governments, Imperial Institute, London Docks, and the largest Freezing and Shipping Companies throughout the world.
SUITABLE FOR HOTTEST CLIMATE.
Machines guaranteed.
SAFETY, ECONOMY, AND NO POISONOUS FUMES.
Sole Agent—
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BUTTER FACTORIES. — Complete Refrigerating Plants, Cream-cooling Tanks, Water-cooling and Room-cooling Apparatus on the latest principle. EDMUND TAYLOR, Cold Storage Works, Ross-st., Camperdown.

TAYLOR'S Patent Refrigerating and Ice Machines, with latest improvements; no engine required. Fifty machines now working. Sole maker, EDMUND TAYLOR, Cold Storage Works, Ross-street, Camperdown.

BELTING.—We have several Very Cheap Lines in LEATHER, Raw Hide, Rubber, and Cotton.
J. C. LUDOWICI and SON, Limited,
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MILLS, grind quartz, alluvial, bone, bark, paint, spic., crystal, pay tour. Johns, 113 Botany-rd., Alexandria.

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HORDERNS, in PITT-STREET,
HAVE MUCH PLEASURE IN WISHING THEIR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS
A MERRY XMAS
and
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.
(CLOSED TO-DAY, DECEMBER 25.)
AN INVITATION.
VISITORS FROM THE COUNTRY OR NEIGHBOURING COLONIES
are cordially invited to visit our Establishment and purchase a parcel before returning home.
(CLOSED TO-DAY, DECEMBER 25.)
SPECIAL NEW ATTRACTIONS ON FRIDAY NEXT, DEC. 27, ESPECIALLY FOR VISITORS TO SYDNEY.
AFTER THE HOLIDAYS VISIT
HORDERN BROTHERS,
203 to 211 PITT-STREET (ONLY),
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MARRIAGES, MARRIAGES (Under Act of Parliament, 19th Vic., No. 30, N.S.W.). WELDON'S, 57 Phillip-street, next Hotel Metropole. MARRIAGES LEGALLY SOLEMNISED by fully ordained Ministers of Recognised Churches. FEE, £1; witnesses provided free. Any denomination. No notice required; very quiet and reserved. Hours, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. 57 PHILLIP-STREET, next Hotel Metropole.

A.—PRIVATE Detective COOKE, recom. by judges and magis. Unclaimed Money Offices, 126 Phillip-st., Syd.

A.—MARRIAGE CELEBRATION ONLY.—Marriages solemnised according to the RITES of any Denomination by FULLY-ACCREDITED MINISTER, in his own STUDY, 48 ELIZABETH-ST., Sydney, or elsewhere. Fee £1 1s, including witnesses. Notice unnecessary. Inquiries and letters answered. Arrange direct with officiating Minister. No agents. 9 till 9. Minister's Study, 48 Elizabeth-street, UPSTAIRS, opp. WEEKES, Signwriter.

"APRICOTEUR" is the registered name for the best APRICOT BRANDY.

ANGELA.—Compliments of season to you. Four letters for you. Important. Say where send them. Joe.

ANGELA.—Send all my letters Post-office, Edgecliffe, name full. Tell T. call. B. D.

ADDRESS of MATTHEW WELSH (late owner of North Enabalong Station, Lachlan River) urgently required. Son Thomas dead.
CHRISTOPHER WELSH.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.—Painless Dentistry.—A beautiful SET for one guinea. Mr. GEORGE, one of Sydney's leading Dentists, 471 Pitt-street, near Christ Church, has reduced his prices below all others.

A.—SUPERFLUOUS HAIR.—Treatment effectual, painless, lasting. London and Parisian Toilet Co.

A.—COMPLEXION BEAUTIFYING by Continental system of Face Massage, Medicated Steam, &c. Bust development a speciality. Rheumatism, Corpulency, Nerve Complaints quickly cured by Electric Massage, German, Vapour, Friction Baths. London and Parisian Toilet Co., complexion specialists, 71 Syd. Arcade.

A.—Dr. Davis's Complexion PILLS impart clear and lovely skin; posted, 3s 6d. L. and Parisian Toilet Co.

BARLOW'S HOTEL, corner King and Pitt sts.—The 2 favourites, Dickens' Whisky and Apricoteur.

DRINK CORRYCHOILLIE BLEND WHISKY.

HARRY.—Meet me at the Cafe Francais, George-st., this afternoon, and have a glass of Dickens' Whisky.

IF this should meet the eye of Dr. MELLOR, Eye Specialist, late of Botany-street, Surry Hills, or anyone knowing his address, kindly forward it to
W. T. Z.,
Manly Beach Post-office.
Old patient wishes to see him.

Town Clerk's Office,
Sydney, December 24th, 1895.
INFORMATION REQUIRED regarding the persons hereunder named:—
DUGGAN, KATIE, resident in Sydney years ago; brother in America recently dead.
DONOHOE, JOHN, late of King's County, Ireland.
RIGNEY, W., and WIFE; wife's maiden name Mary Butler.
BAKER, JAMES and MOSES, formerly of Mudgee.
BEAUBLANC, ARTHUR, last heard of in Sussex-street in 1887.
HENRY J. DANIELS,
Town Clerk.

JOHN JONES, who died in Sydney in 1854, brother of the Rev. Robert Morgan Jones, late Vicar of Cromford, Devonshire, England.—Information urgently required of or from the children or other descendants of the late John Jones. DEANE and DEANE, solicitors, 33 Bowe-street, Sydney.

MADAME ZEPHEY, Queen of Palmists, 212 Liverpool-st., between Crown and Riley sts.

NELL.—Best wishes for your every happiness. Am I quite forgotten, as silence would imply? W.

ORNAMENTAL HAIR for Style and Convenience.—A new stock of Fringes (from London), made of naturally curly hair, at reduced prices. These useful articles are made in a new shape, very light and suitable for our trying climate. J. B. GOOCH, Hairworker and Importer of Hair, 295 George-st., opp. Hunter-st. See name on shop.

SINCERELY hoping you are well; wishing you a happy Christmas, kindest wishes, fond love. Katey.

THE FAMOUS WHISKY, ACORN BRAND.

TICKETS, boat, rail, anywhere, wanted; also sell cheap, exchange. Davis, 109 Pitt-st., opp. G.P.O.

TICKETS, reduced rates, to all parts Victoria, Queensland, N. Zealand, Europe, &c. Firkins, 135 King-st.

TO SPORTSMEN.—Madam VON (of Dean Case), 308 Crown-st., can Reveal the Winner of Summer Cup.

TICKETS issued by Companies belonging to S.S. Owners' Association are NOT TRANSFERABLE, and if improperly used will be confiscated and users prosecuted.
A. B. COCKBURN,
Secy. S.S. Owners' Association.

WILL LADY who made Appointment gentleman Waverley 'bus, for Tuesday morning 10.30, Royal Arcade, make further Appointment by letter?
C. W. T., Park-street Post-office.

Houses and Land for Sale.

FIFTEEN SHILLINGS per foot is the upset price of the HAMPDEN ESTATE, Croydon, adjoining the Western Suburbs Cottage Hospital. Sale next SATURDAY. ERNEST BROUGHTON, 250 Pitt-street, Auct.

EQUITABLE PERMANENT B. BUILDING, L., and SAVINGS INSTITUTION.
Offices: Pitt and Park streets.
WHY PAY RENT, when, by obtaining assistance from this Institution, you can convert the rent into purchase money? Advances made to buy or build at reduced rate of interest. Principal and interest repayable by easy instalments. Prospectus and full information free on application.
WILLIAM CHADWICK, Manager.

RANDWICK.—TO SQUATTERS.—A superior detached Cottage VILLA, dining, drawing, breakfast rooms, 4 bedrooms (furniture for sale), built seven years, large rooms, wide verandahs, pretty lawn, lovely views, 3 minutes tram or beach, principal st. Torrens title. Terms moderate. Barg. Leigh Cottage, Belmore-rd., n. Coogee.

SPLENDID FARM or ORCHARD LAND, 357 acres, about 2 miles from Rooty Hill station, permanent water, for SALE cheap, in one or two lots.
P. L. C. SHEPHERD, 202 Pitt-street.

KENSINGTON, the new Model Suburb, an extension of the city and surrounded by parks, is only about 15 minutes from the centre of Sydney by 3d tram or omnibus. The avenues and streets are well laid out and planted with trees. TORRENS TITLE. Particulars and prices of ALLOTMENTS for SALE at Estate Office, Kensington.

TO SPECULATORS.—For Private Sale.—LIFE INTERESTS in CORNER PREMISES, Regent and Cleveland streets, Redfern, and in TWO LIFE POLICIES. For full particulars apply to RICHARDSON and WRENCH, Limited. (1288)

HUNTER'S HILL.—Lovely Building SITES, Woolwich-road, commanding splendid water and other views, good frontages, great depths, near steamers' wharf, very reduced prices. R. and W., Ltd.

EXCHANGE or SELL, FARM, 40 acres, Torrens near Sydney, value £1800, half at 5 per cent.
Box 21, Post-office,
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CHATSWOOD.—LAND for SALE, 1 to 50 acre Blocks, easy terms. Harnett, Hunter-st.

FOR SALE, freehold, ROYAL EXCHANGE HOTEL, Parramatta North, large area of land, Torrens title, immediate possession, easy terms, no agents. Apply to proprietor, W. H. M'DONALD.

EASTWOOD (13 miles from Sydney, on Northern Railway Line).—For SALE, a comfortable and compact FAMILY RESIDENCE and Ground, with 20 acres really good ORCHARD. This charming and healthy district is only 30 minutes by rail from Sydney, and the position of the property is unsurpassed for lovely views. A low price will be taken. Partic. G. H. Mobbs and Co., or John Taylor, Parramatta; or Alex. Martin, 213 Clarence-st., Sydney.

WAHROONGA, TURRAMURRA.—Within easy distance of both stations by good road.—Over 70 acres excellent LAND for SALE, 12 to 14 acres planted with orange, lemon, peach, pear, apple, and plum trees, in full bearing; Cottage, stables, &c. Owing to death of late owner, and retirement of his widow to England, this property must be sold; hence price, £2400. Apply for particulars,
JAMES G. EDWARDS and CO.,
Moore-street.

MOSMAN, the beautiful marine suburb.—Modern Cottage RESIDENCE, built on best designs, with all latest conveniences and improvements, 8 rooms, kitchen, complete offices, cellars, stables, c.h., sum.-h., tennis court, garden, &c., only £950, terms. J. J. KEARFY, the Local Agent, tram terminus, Mosman. Drive to inspect.

MOSMAN, com. superb marine views.—Handsome new 6-roomed Cottage, £700. J. J. Kearey, local agent.

MOSMAN.—New Cottage, 7 rms., exq. harbour views, grand position, £850. J. J. Kearey, tram terminus.

MOSMAN.—Gentleman's superior Cottage RESIDENCE, prettiest design, £1200. J. J. KEAREY, tram and Mosman's Bay 'bus, terminus (only), Military-road, Mosman. Established 1888. Drive to inspect.

ROCKDALE, near Bay-street.—For SALE, a bargain, a nice brick 4-roomed COTTAGE and 5 acres of Land, 10 min. from station, £450, suit poultry or nurseryman. G. R. SWYNY, Royal Arcade, Pitt-street.

ST. PETERS, Alfred-st., 4th street beyond St. Peters Church.—Maries, a good det. W.B. Cottage, hall, 4 l. rms., kit., &c., land 50 x 100, £250, terms, more land if req. only 5 min. walk from Syd. stn. G. R. Swyny, 267 Pitt-st.

NEWTOWN, 90, cor. Wells and John sts.—Nice brick Cott., 4 rs., £350, £20 dep., bal. 12s 6d wk. 267 Pitt-st.

Furniture.

DRAWING-ROOM SUITE in solid Rosewood frames, covered in best silk tapestry and olive-green plush, nearly new, £9, worth £30. PIANO, cost £45, sell £18. SYMONDS, 77 Castlereagh-street, near King-street.

TO PARTIES ABOUT TO MARRY.—Gentleman leaving Sydney will Sell Household Furniture and Effects of 4-roomed Cottage, at half cost, for cash. No dealers.
Loss, Herald Office.

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CHRISTMAS NUMBERS, with Handsome Supplements.—Black and White, Ill. London News, each 1s; Graphic, Holly Leaves, Yuletide, each 1s 6d; postage extra, 4d each. GORDON and GOTCH, 126 Pitt-street.

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NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS and Others.—Best BONEDUST in market, guaranteed, delivered to rail or wharf, £3 per ton. Address
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AUCKLAND.—The GRAND HOTEL, opposite Government House. Mrs. M. Gallagher, proprietress.

AT HOBART, TASMANIA.
WESTELLA,
PRIVATE FAMILY HOTEL,
is now under
NEW MANAGEMENT,
and has been re-furnished and entirely renovated, and, with its spacious and attractive gardens, lawns, &c., is a most desirable residence for visitors for the summer months.
Mrs. F. M. BUTLER,
Proprietress.

BLACKHEATH.—Sup. Accomm., every home comfort obtained by visitors, mod. Miss Shaw, Strathmore.

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THE IVANHOE,
3500ft. above the sea. Excellent Accommodation for Visitors. A Favourite Health Resort.

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Family and Commercial House.
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BOARD or APARTMENTS at option.

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FIRST-CLASS
PRIVATE FAMILY HOTEL.
Terms Daily, Weekly, or to suit clients.
Mrs. CLEMENTS, Proprietress.

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ORIENT HOTEL.
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ORIENTAL HOTEL,
Collins-street, Melbourne,
opposite Melbourne Club,
offers superior ACCOMMODATION. Newly renovated.
Leading position, electric light.
Hot and Cold Baths. Moderate Terms.

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George and Market streets, Sydney.
Noted for its Comfort and Moderate Charges.

SPRINGWOOD, Blue Mountains.—First-class Accommodation, 25s per week, private tables 2 guineas; reduced rates from Saturday till Monday; horses, vehicle kept for conven. of visitors. D. MUTCH, Royal Hotel.

THE ORIENTAL, SPRINGWOOD,
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Noted for comfort, cuisine, and moderate charges.
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AT Victoria House, 30 Wynyard-square.—Vacancies for lady and gentleman or two gentlemen; terms mod.

AT CARLISLE, 179 Albion-st., Surry Hills.—Sup. Board and R., balcony room, mod. Mrs. Turner.

AT GLENLYON, Point Piper-rd., Woollahra.—Large front balcony Bedroom vacant, suit two gentlemen.

AT DRAYTON, 73 Victoria-st. N.—APARTMENTS vacant, double and single ROOMS. Mrs. Bain.

A WELL-FURNISHED ROOM, bath, key, 6s. 239 Victoria-st., near Liverpool-st.

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CHANGE, perm. or short, with young couple (no child.), on farm, 25s, refs. exchanged. A. W. T., Bowral P.O.

GENTLEMEN should not fail to ask at Power's Hotel for genuine Apricot Brandy and Malto Victoria Cigars.

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VISITORS to Blue Mountains.—Lady offers sup. Board, £1, child, 10s, g. table. Terrace Falls, P.O., Hazelbrook.

MANLY.—Wanted, Accommodation, near ferry, for family of 7. Full particulars to A. X., Beecroft.

TWO Gentlemen require SITTING-ROOM and 2 Bedrooms, with breakfast. B. Z., Herald Office.

TWO Furnished ROOMS wanted, use kitchen, resp. locality, near city. M. C. W., Petersham Post-office.

WANTED, 2 large unfur. Rooms, use kit. Terms, over business no objection. Moderate, Darlingt'n P.O.

WANTED, Bedrooms and Sitting-rooms, in town, without board. Mrs. Cox, 120 Strand.

WANTED, furnished balcony ROOM, conv. to town State terms. Z., P.O., Oxford-st.

WANTED by two Ladies, Furnished Bed and Sitting ROOMS, use of kitchen, or would Rent part of small Cottage, furnished, moderate, Darlinghurst preferred. Reply immediately, Cosmopolitan, G.P.O.

Houses, Land, &c., Wanted.

FOR EXCHANGE FOR BUILDING LAND, a large double-fronted SHOP and Dwelling, 5 rooms, kit., large yard, splendid business position. Tram stops at door. Torrens. LET on Lease to a first-class tenant.
C. F. LAMB,
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WANTED, Manly, after 1st, furnished House for 3 or 4 months, 30s wk. M. Phillips, 96 Liverp'l-st., Pad.

WANTED, small Grocery, subs., comf. dwelling, and stable. Particulars Confidential Grocer, G.P.O.

WANTED, a COTTAGE, with 6 rooms, kit., and con., about 3 miles from city. B. B., P.O., Marrickville.

WANTED, early in January, furnished COTTAGE, 3 bedrooms, 1 sitting-room, kitchen, &c., within 10 minutes' walk of railway station, water, bet. Lawson and Katoomba. State lowest terms to Mu, P.O., Waverley.

WANTED to RENT for three months from the first week in January, a Furnished HOUSE, North Sydney preferred, close to the ferry, containing not less than three or four bed rooms. Terms must be moderate. Apply to
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A GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE, FERNHOLME, £30 p. a., 12 rooms, bathroom, pantry, offices, 6 acres land and garden, suitable for school or boarding-house, beautifully situated, 7 miles from Sydney, 2½ from Manly. MARSHALL and DEMPSTER, 112 PITT-ST. Keys at EAVES'S CAMERA, MANLY.

AT A MUCH-REDUCED RENTAL, spacious Business PREMISES, known as 269 George-street, close to Margaret-street, for many years occupied by Messrs. Fesq. and Co., comprising basement, ground floor, and two upper floors. Rent, £300 per annum. Apply PIERCY ETHELL and CO.; or HARDIE and GORMAN, Pitt-street.

BAKERY, grand chance, every conv., 25 years estab. good oven, dwelling, &c. 144 Macquarie-st., S. Hills.

BLACKHEATH.—Neate's Furn. Cottages, 1 to 4 bedrooms, nr. station, red. terms. J. Neate, jun., grocer.

BALMAIN.—WATER FRONTAGE.—To LET, fine large Block of LAND, 140ft. frontage to Iron Cove, near Elliott's Chemical Works; rent 20s week. STEPHEN DICKSON, Terry-street, next Childrey's Saw Mills.

BURWOOD, facing the Park.—Being renovated, in Park-avenue, HOUSE, containing 10 rooms, pantries, storerooms, kitchen, stables, outhouses, all conveniences, position unequalled, 2 minutes from station; is now being put in thorough repair, and painted inside and out. Intending tenants please inspect. Keys with painters.
Full particulars and low rental from
JOHN C. HAMILTON and COMPANY,
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CHRISTMAS STORIES, BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATIONS, and MAGNIFICENT
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BLACKHEATH.—Furn. Cottages, 4 and 6 rooms, main st., best positn. Mrs. A. Smith, Nibelung, Bl'heath.

BOWRAL, Mount Hamilton.—A most comfortable HOME, every convenience, with 9 acres of land, furnished. REDUCED RENT. Apply
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BLIGH-STREET.—Commodious RESIDENCE, opposite Union Club.
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OXFORD-STREET.—SHOP, opposite Sacred Heart Church.
ULTIMO.—Harris-street: Houses, 18s per week.
Fig-street: Houses, 12s per week.
Crown-road: Houses, 11s per week.
Crown-lane: Houses, 9s per week.
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ORWELL-STREET, DARLINGHURST.—House, 7 rooms, good position.
JAMES and SLADE,
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COMMODIOUS and well-lighted OFFICES to LET, on second and third floors, fronting Pitt-street, near General Post Office; moderate rent. The sanitary arrangements are perfect, having been recently constructed under the supervision of the Water and Sewerage Board. Apply J. BULLEN, Herald Office, Hunter-street.

DARLINGHURST.—To LET, No. 153 Brougham-street, 6 rooms, kitchen, servant's room, washhouse, bath, &c., &c., elevated situation; splendid view over Domain. Apply 159 Brougham-street.

DARLINGHURST, Balmoral-terrace, Womerah-avenue.—To LET, No. 67, a superior Family RESIDENCE, replete with every modern convenience, 7 rooms (folding-doors), kitchen, laundry, 2 pantries, superior bathroom, large yard. Rent 25s 6d. Keys Shop nearly opposite; or ALEX. MARTIN, Abergeldie, 61 Womerah-avenue.

ELIZABETH BAY, Roslyn Gardens.—RESIDENCE, 9 splendid rooms, bathroom, kitchen, lavatory, and modern offices, hot water throughout, special marble mantels and superior gas fittings.
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For cards to view apply
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FURNISHED COTTAGE, 4 rooms, near tram and Punch-st. ferry. Apply 395 Darling-st., Balmain.

GLENMORE-ROAD, PADDINGTON.—To LET, BITTERLEY, No. 102, close to Liverpool-street East. Key at Mr. C. Helmrich's, Duxford-street, off Glenmore-road, Paddington, or Richardson and Wrench, Ltd. (1389)

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LARGE OFFICES, SAMPLE ROOMS, and STORES, convenient and well lighted, to LET, at reduced rentals. Apply
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MIDDLE HARBOUR, Red Hand Bay.—To LET, a galvanised iron COTTAGE, 2 rooms, water frontage, would suit boating men; rent 7s 6d a week.
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MOSMAN.—To LET, "Farella" and "Casa," Gladstone-avenue, 7 and 5 rooms, &c.; also "Leona," Keston-avenue, 4 rooms, all have bay windows, tiled fireplaces, m. mantl., g. st., &c. Mr. Muston, Military-rd., M.

NEWTOWN.—No. 5 Ada Villas, Erskineville-rd., 8 rooms in all, every conven., 16s. Apply at No. 3.

NO RENT FOR TWO YEARS.—BLUE MOUNTAINS (near Katoomba).—To LET, on LONG LEASE, 200 ACRES of LAND, together with snug well-built COTTAGE, and garden part cleared and trenched, ready for fruit. From a practical man a mere NOMINAL RENT would be accepted in consideration of his making improvements. A good healthy living.
Apply at Wall's Selection, Rutland-road, Medlow, adjoining Edwards's orchard; or
PIERCY ETHELL and CO., 171 Pitt-street.

OFFICES to LET, low rent, splendid rooms. 263 George-st.

OFFICES, compact and commodious, suite of 5 rooms, together or separate. Dean's-chams., 45 Elizabeth-st.

OFFICES to LET in best business position in city, close to Courts, at greatly reduced rents, in Stephen's-court, 101 Elizabeth-street, near King-street. Apply
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SHOP and Dwell., 3 rs., kit., wash., copper, stable, sui. working tradesman. Inquire 19 Bourke-st., Redfern.

SHOP and Dwelling, 6 rooms, &c., reduced rent, 7 Newtown-rd. Apply No. 10.

STRATHFIELD.—To LET, HIGHBURY COTTAGE, at top of Vernon-street, 5 rooms, kitchen, bathroom, large garden, rent 18s. Apply on premises, or
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ST. MARK'S-TERRACE, Womerah-avenue.—To LET, No. 43, comfortable RESIDENCE, 6 rooms, folding-doors, kitchen, laundry, and every convenience; rent 18s. Keys shop opp.; or Alex. Martin, 61 Womerah-avenue.

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SHOP, Bakery, stables, premises, city, 30s.
SHOP Premises, good yard, city, 17s.
SURRY HILLS.—Six-roomed House, hall, ev. conv., 15s.
SMITH-STREET.—6-roomed HOUSE, 16s.
Apply 43 Hunter-street.

S. T. RODD has the FOLLOWING PROPERTIES To LET:—
BALMAIN, 5 Cheltenham-street, HOUSE, 3 rooms, &c., rent 6s. Keys at office.
REDFERN.—22 and 26 Dowling-street, facing Moore Park, 6 rooms, stables, &c., rent reduced to 17s.
REDFERN.—9 Rennie-street, 4 rooms, rent red. 8s.
REDFERN.—59 Bourke-st., 6 rooms and stables, rent 16s.
4 STANMORE-TERRACE, Fotheringham-street, off Stanmore-road, rent 8s. Key next door.
SURRY HILLS.—No. 24 Parkham-street, rent 14s.
SURRY HILLS.—Shop, 19 Phelps-street. Key next door.
LEICHHARDT.—No. 7 Fraser-street, 4 rooms, &c., rent 8s 6d. Key next door.
ANNANDALE.—266 Young-street, 4 rooms, &c., rent 17s. Key next door.
S. T. RODD, Estate Agent,
80A Pitt-street.

TO LET, COTTAGE, stables, and paddock, Susan-st., Annandale. J. Cahill, Johnston-st.

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By order of the Committee of Management,
W. H. GIBSON, Superintendent and Secretary.
Melbourne, 20th December, 1895.

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Advertisements are classified as far as possible for the convenience of readers. Advertisers will oblige by indicating, in the first line of the manuscript or order, under which particular heading the advertisement should appear. While every care is taken in classification, no responsibility is accepted.
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Notices of BIRTHS and DEATHS cannot be inserted in this journal unless endorsed with the name and address of the person by whom they are sent.
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This rule is rendered necessary in consequence of false and malicious notices having been sent for publication for the purpose of annoying respectable persons.
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SYDNEY.—Printed and Published by JOHN FAIRFAX AND SONS, at the office of The Sydney Morning Herald, Pitt and Hunter streets, Wednesday, December 25, 1895.